



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Two, Week 1
April 15th, 2024

#10

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

As we embark on a new term filled with possibilities and learning adventures, we extend a warm welcome to all students, parents, teachers, and staff. We are delighted to welcome three new students to our school community this term. We are confident that they will be welcomed into their new year levels and quickly become part of our school family. Please join us in extending a friendly greeting to these new members of our community as they begin their journey with us.

Over the school holidays, we have taken steps to increase security measures around our school. We have enhanced the security and safety of our school campus by installing new security cameras. These cameras will help monitor and safeguard our school grounds, ensuring a secure environment for everyone. They have been placed at the front and back door of the school, as well as overlooking the school yard and the courts.

Additionally, please note that our gates will continue to be locked after hours as part of our ongoing efforts to maintain safe and controlled access to the school premises. This measure is essential for the protection of our students, staff, and facilities. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we prioritise the well-being and security of our school community.

Our staff would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone in our school community for your unwavering support and dedication. Thanks to the incredible efforts of the P&F and the broader community, our recent Easter Raffle and Hot Cross Bun drive were a tremendous success. Through your generous contributions, we raised an impressive \$500, which will be used to provide mini



whiteboards for every classroom, benefiting every student in their learning journey. Additionally, your support has enabled us to enhance safety on the playground by purchasing new devices that allow staff to directly contact the school during yard duty. Together, these initiatives reflect our shared commitment to making our school a place of growth, learning, and positivity. Thank you once again for your continued support and for making a meaningful difference in our school community.

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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

We are thrilled to welcome back Marg Dunn from her long service leave during term 1. Marg will be stepping into her new role as a Learning Support Officer in the Year 3/4 area, and we are excited to have her expertise and dedication in this important role. Marg's return brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our team, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact she will make in supporting our students' learning and development.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of John O'Beirne, the beloved husband of our colleague Rosa O'Beirne, after his prolonged illness. During this challenging journey, Rosa demonstrated extraordinary compassion and dedication in caring for her husband. As a school community, we extend our heartfelt condolences and support to Rosa and John's family and friends during this time of profound loss. Let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they navigate through this difficult period of mourning. Together, we honour John's memory and stand in solidarity with Rosa, providing comfort and strength during this difficult time.

We are looking forward to a very
successful and fulfilling term ahead!

Susan

Time to Pause

We take a pause and reflect this week on the tragic events of the weekend in Sydney, Bondi Junction. We pray for those affected, for those that showed immense bravery in a tragic situation and those Australians simply going about life that witnessed these events. We are grateful for the love of family and friends and for our first responders.

Pope Francis has expressed his "spiritual closeness" with Australia. "Pope Francis was deeply saddened to learn of the violent attack in Sydney, and he sends the assurance of his spiritual closeness to all affected by this senseless tragedy, especially those who are now mourning the loss of a loved one," Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, has stated. "He likewise offers his prayers for the dead, the injured, as well as the first responders, and invokes upon the nation the divine blessings of consolation and strength."



Lord, we pray for those who have been devastated by this tragedy. We remember those who have lost their lives so suddenly. We hold in our hearts the families forever changed by grief and loss. Bring them consolation and comfort. Surround them with our prayers for strength. Bless those who have survived and heal their memories of trauma and devastation. May they have the courage to face the days ahead. Help us to respond with generosity in prayer, in assistance, and in comfort to the best of our abilities. Keep our hearts focused on the needs of all the community. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term 2

April

Monday, April 15th
Tuesday, April 16th
Friday, April 19th
Friday, April 19th

Monday, April 22nd
Tuesday, April 23rd
Wednesday, April 24th
Thursday, April 25th
Friday, April 26th

May

Friday, May 10th

Wednesday, May 15th
Thursday, May 16th
Friday, May 17th
Friday, May 24th

Tuesday, May 28th

June

Friday, June 7th
Monday, June 10th
Wednesday, June 12th
Friday, June 21st
Friday, June 28th

School Closure Day. Staff Professional Learning

Term 2 Begins for students
2025 Enrolment Applications Due
ANZAC Service at the Shrine – School Captains, Vice Captains & Social Justice leaders attending
Cyber Safety Information evening 5.30 – 6.30pm
School Board 7pm
District Cross Country Years 4-6 selected students
ANZAC Day public holiday
School Closure Day. Staff Professional Learning

Muffins with Mum 8am
Raffle Draw
Mother's Day Stall
Assembly – 5/6 presenting
Division Cross Country selected students
Netball/AFL Lightning Premiership 5/6 students
Whole School Athletics & P&F BBQ
FIRE Carrier Commissioning Ceremony; selected students
Assembly – 3/4 presenting
School Board 7pm

Assembly – 1/2 presenting
King's Birthday Public Holiday
Prep Excursion Werribee Zoo
Assembly – Prep presenting
Final day of Term 2. 1.30pm dismissal

Easter Raffle Winners

- 1st Fletcher Eslick
- 2nd Ruby O'Leary
- 3rd Kartia Milmilstein
- 4th Fergus Boyle



College Tours

Remaining Dates:
Wednesday 17 April
Friday 19 April - **Booked out**
Tuesday 23 April - **Additional tour date**

Book Now sjc.vic.edu.au
We welcome all Year 7 2025 families to join us

Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term 3

July

Monday, July 15 th	First Day of Term 3
Tuesday, July 23 rd	P&F lunch - Cheer Truck
Tuesday, July 23 rd	Grandparents' Day
Tuesday, July 30 th	School Board 7pm

August

Friday, August 16 th	School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
Sunday, August 18 th	Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm
Friday, August 30 th	Donuts with Dad 8am
	Raffle draw
	Father's Day Stall
Saturday, August 31 st	P&F Bake Sale

September

Tuesday, September 3 rd	School Board 7pm
Friday, September 6 th	Italian Day
	P&F pizza lunch
Thursday, September 12 th	R U OK? & Footy Colours Day
	P&F Pie lunch
	Longest kick event
Tuesday, September 20 th	Final day of Term 3. 1.30pm dismissal

Term 4

October

Monday, October 7 th	First Day of Term 4
Tuesday, October 15 th	School Board 7pm
Monday, October 21 st	School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
Wednesday, October 30 th	Year 5 /6 Camp-Anglesea (until Friday, November 1 st)

November

Monday, November 4 th	School Closure Day
Tuesday, November 5 th	Melbourne Cup public holiday
Thursday, November 21 st	Sacrament of First Reconciliation: 12noon

December

Friday, December 6 th	School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
Tuesday, December 10 th	School Board 7pm
Thursday, December 12 th	Whole School Carols Evening
Tuesday, December 17 th	Final day of Term 4. 1.30pm dismissal



St Margaret's Primary School

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Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au

Student Voice

Over the last few weeks, I have been trialling to compete in the country championships for soccer, as the under 11s goalkeeper. Each week the numbers have been cut down and last week was the last trial. I was very nervous about receiving the news whether I got into the squad or not. Last Thursday I received the news that I made the team! I was very excited and proud of myself. My bother Philly (5/6MDJ/FM) also made the under 13s squad. The Geelong team selected will travel to Mildura on the long weekend in June to compete against the best players in Victoria for the title.



Aiden Coumans (3/4JK)

Introducing... WONDERTOTS

Wonderkind & Co's newest, engagement & attachment based, small group program. Open to all parents/carers with a child/ren aged between 0-2 years. NDIS plans can be used for this program. Please email hello@wonderkindandco.com for more information or to register.

WONDER TOTS

An attachment based group for parents and children 0-2 years



What?

An attachment based small group work program underpinned by Theraplay principles to support attunement, safe connection, engagement, nurture, structure, reading body language, therapeutic play, joy, growth and development.

Who?

For parent(s)/Carer(s) and tots aged 0-2 years that have experienced attachment disruption and require additional support to connect. This program is open to parents/carers on Family Preservation or Family Reunification Orders and /or Parents/Carers with Intellectual Disabilities / NDIS Plans.

Why?

A safe space, informed Clinicians, psychoeducation around attachment disruption, practical skills development and direct role modelling. A wonderful experience for both adult and child to engage in active play activities specifically designed to treat attachment pathology and enable connection, dyadic growth and development.

When?

Wonder Tots will be held at Wonderkind & Co, 245 Pakington St, Newtown. Tuesday mornings 9.30am - 11am during school terms. Please contact hello@wonderkindandco.com to find out more!