



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Two, Week 7
May 27th, 2024

#16

From Susan's Desk

Dear Families,

Last week a Student code of Conduct was sent home with each child, as well as a Parent Code of Conduct for each family. Please take the time to read, sign and return these to your classroom teacher as soon as possible. These codes of conduct will now be included in all enrolment packs in line with the MACS policies about conduct within our schools. The Child Safe Code of Conduct is still to be read, signed and returned each year if you wish to volunteer or help out in any way at the school. At St Margaret's we wish to create a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment for all of our students, staff and families and appreciate your support in this endeavour.

Our Prep students have been eagerly awaiting the hatching of the chickens in their classrooms. They have enjoyed watching first hand as these chickens hatch and grow over the last few weeks. We have some photos later in this newsletter.



Four of our FIRE Carrier Leaders attended the Commissioning of our School covenant last Friday at the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Melbourne. Here students engaged in activities and learned about the Opening the Doors Foundation and the responsibilities of the

FIRE Carrier Program. All of our FIRE Carrier leaders developed a School Covenant which was commissioned on this day and our school recognised as a FIRE Carrier School. We will hear more from these student leaders in the coming newsletters as they present our Covenant to the school community and their reflections on becoming a FIRE Carrier school. Thank you to Miss Fiona and Mrs Philbrick for accompanying these students and to Mrs Mac and Mrs Hanley for additionally supporting all our FIRE Carrier Leaders as they developed our School Covenant. This was a wonderful experience for these student leaders.

May 27th to June 3rd is National Reconciliation Week. The theme for 2024 is **Now more than ever**. The focus is on the continuing work in treaty making, in truth-telling, in understanding our history, in education, and in tackling racism. Connection, respect and change for reconciliation. Students will engage in prayer, reflection and classroom activities around reconciliation this week.

...continued over



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

Thank you to the P&F for their continued support to raise funds for our wellbeing pod. Through their amazing organisation and the generosity of our community we have already raised \$4677 from the Mother's Day Raffle and Aths Day BBQ. Almost a quarter of the way to our \$20,000 target! For the remainder of the term we have 3 more opportunities to add to this amazing total. The Billy G Cookie fundraiser, International Donut Day and Bakers Delight Pizza Special Lunch Day. We thank everyone for their continued support to ensure our wellbeing space can continue as our school grows in 2025!

Wishing everyone a great week ahead!
Susan

Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term 2

May

Tuesday, May 28th

School Board 7pm

June

Friday, June 7th

Donut day

Friday, June 7th

Assembly – 1/2 presenting

Thursday, June 6th

Eye Test Screening Years 1, 3, 6

Monday, June 10th

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday, June 11th

Bully Zero - Whole School Incursion

Wednesday, June 12th

Prep Excursion - Werribee Zoo

Thursday, June 20th

Prep/1/2 Non Eucharist Mass at St. Margaret's Church 9.15am

Friday, June 21st

P&F Special Lunch - Baker's Delight

Friday, June 21st

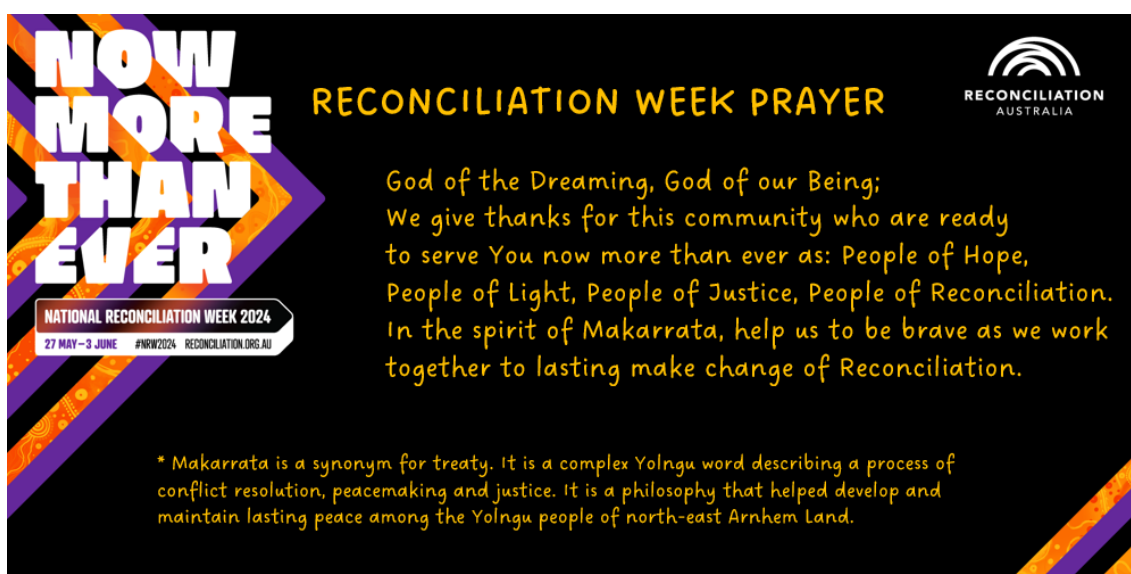
Assembly – Prep presenting

Thursday, June 27th

Years 3-6 Mass at St. Margaret's Church 9.15am

Friday, June 28th

Final day of Term 2. 1.30pm dismissal



NOW MORE THAN EVER

RECONCILIATION WEEK PRAYER

God of the Dreaming, God of our Being;
We give thanks for this community who are ready
to serve You now more than ever as: People of Hope,
People of Light, People of Justice, People of Reconciliation.
In the spirit of Makarrata, help us to be brave as we work
together to lasting make change of Reconciliation.

* Makarrata is a synonym for treaty. It is a complex Yolngu word describing a process of conflict resolution, peacemaking and justice. It is a philosophy that helped develop and maintain lasting peace among the Yolngu people of north-east Arnhem Land.



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

Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term 3

July

Monday, July 15th
Tuesday, July 23rd
Tuesday, July 23rd
Tuesday, July 30th

First Day of Term 3
P&F lunch - Cheer Truck
Grandparents' Day
School Board 7pm

August

Wednesday, August 14th
Friday, August 16th
Sunday, August 18th
Friday, August 30th

Book Week Dress-up day. Theme: "Reading is Magic"
School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm
Donuts with Dad 8am
Raffle draw
Father's Day Stall
P&F Bake Sale

Saturday, August 31st

September

Tuesday, September 3rd
Friday, September 6th

Thursday, September 12th

Tuesday, September 20th

School Board 7pm
Italian Day
P&F pizza lunch
R U OK? & Footy Colours Day
P&F Pie lunch
Longest kick event
Final day of Term 3. 1.30pm dismissal

Term 4

October

Monday, October 7th
Tuesday, October 15th
Monday, October 21st
Wednesday, October 30th

First Day of Term 4
School Board 7pm
School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
Year 5 /6 Camp - Anglesea (until Friday, November 1st)

November

Monday, November 4th
Tuesday, November 5th
Thursday, November 21st

School Closure Day
Melbourne Cup public holiday
Sacrament of First Reconciliation: 12 noon

December

Friday, December 6th
Tuesday, December 10th
Thursday, December 12th
Tuesday, December 17th

School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning
School Board 7pm
Whole School Carols Evening
Final day of Term 4. 1.30pm dismissal

Athletics Day Sports Results

1st Mulcahy 202
2nd Rafter 179
3rd Mercy 175
4th Iona 159

A special afternoon will be organised to complete the relay races and a winner announced for these, as they were cancelled on the day due to rain.



Student of the Week Awards

CLASS	STUDENT	AWARDS - FRIDAY May 24 th , 2024
PREP	Lucia Hanan	For always showing kindness and empathy to her classmates.
PREP	Amaya Kai	For her thoughtful and insightful contributions during whole class discussions.
1 / 2 JB	River Munn	For applying a growth mindset towards his learning and setting a great example for others through full body listening.
1 / 2 JB	Ari Herwynen	For showing dedication towards his learning and always trying his best.
1 / 2 TB	Luna Stephenson	For always trying her best in all learning tasks.
1 / 2 TB	Zainab Kamran	For always displaying our school values being responsible, respectful and safe.
1 / 2 PB	Archer Robinson	For engaging in all areas of learning and working cooperatively with his peers.
1 / 2 PB	Felicity Tanis	For carrying out her classroom jobs and responsibilities in a mature manner.
3 / 4 HM	Archer McIntosh	For always following teacher instruction and extending himself in maths.
3 / 4 HM	Allegra Spitale	For completing an awesome journey story and always trying her best in writing.
3 / 4 LC	Andrew Nabati	For applying strong mathematical thinking to class discussion and problem solving.
3 / 4 LC	Quinnie Westwood	For her terrific achievements in spelling and handwriting.
3 / 4 JK-KB	Aiden Coumans	For his positive attitude towards his learning and always trying his best.
3 / 4 JK-KB	Lacey Chapman	For her engagement and participation in all learning activities.
5 / 6 KH	Lachlan Barton	For excellent sportsmanship and a positive attitude at the netball Lightning Premiership.
5 / 6 KH	Liam Dillon	For working really hard and joining in class activities and games.
5 / 6 JW	Zac Winterton	For an outstanding performance in the Lightning Premiership. Your teamwork and skills were through the roof!
5 / 6 JW	Charlotte Butcher	For showing resilience and initiative. Your ability to problem solve with your injury has been truly amazing. Thank you!
5 / 6 DJFM	Francesca Payne	For the enthusiasm she presents, at all times, with everything she does at school. It brightens all our lives!
5 / 6 DJFM	Xavier Marshall	For his great efforts at the Lightning Premiership. It was fantastic to see his willingness to listen and bring his teammates into play.
Principal Award	Lenny Spencer-Harmer	For showing kindness to others and being an upstander in our school community.

Literacy News

Is Fluency Really That Important?

YES!

Fluency is an essential skill children need for reading.

Children have poor fluency if:

- They read many words in a passage or text incorrectly.
- They read slowly and with obvious effort.
- They read in a stilted or robotic way.

Reading fluency is generally defined as having three components: accuracy, rate, and expression (prosody).But what does it mean?

Children have good fluency if:

- They read aloud with accuracy, they can decode (read the words) familiar and unfamiliar words
- They read aloud with automaticity, reading quickly and effortlessly, having a smooth, fluid pace.
- They read aloud with prosody, making the reading sound natural, using appropriate expression where necessary and pausing at commas and full stops.

Every day at school our students from Foundation to Year 6 practice their fluency with these things in mind. If you walk around the school during Literacy you will see students sitting together reading and listening to one another, giving each other feedback on what they sound like, what they are doing well and how they can improve.

Your child's teacher has worked hard to put this practice in place so please ask your child about how their fluency partners are going.

At Home:

An easy way you can assist your child at home is to read aloud and model what good reading sounds like. Make deliberate attempts to be mindful of how you use your voice. Use expression and read smoothly and at a good pace.

**HAPPY
READING!**

*Jaki Groves
Literacy Leader*



Read this to yourself. Read it silently.
Don't move your lips. Don't make a sound.
Listen to yourself. Listen without hearing anything.
What a wonderfully weird thing, huh?

NOW MAKE THIS PART LOUD!
SCREAM IT IN YOUR MIND!
DROWN EVERYTHING OUT.
Now, hear a whisper. A tiny whisper.

Now, read this next line in your best crotchety-old man voice:
"Hello there, sonny. Does your town have a post office?"

Awesome! Who was that? Whose voice was that?
It sure wasn't yours!

How do you do that?
How?!

It must've been magic.

— Bo Burnham

Student News

The FIRE Carrier Commissioning Ceremony

The commissioning ceremony for the FIRE carriers was absolutely electrifying! Despite the long journey to Melbourne, every moment was worthwhile. Upon arrival, our first order of business was admiring the remarkable paintings. My favourite painting was an illustration of Uluru with people jumping for joy under it, and below that was the parliament building. Next, we found ourselves in a room filled with rows of chairs and a prominent projector. As we settled into our seats, the presentation began.



The initial segment delved into the rich history of the First Nations People, providing a captivating insight into their heritage. Did you know that there was a fossil of a man named Mungo Man? (Mungo National park is an area in NSW where the fossil was found) Forty thousand years ago was when Mungo Man was buried (just to scale, he was buried thirty-six thousand years before the pyramids) and how neatly he was preserved and laid to rest shows how advanced the First Nations peoples were. We also talked about what reconciliation means to us. I wrote that it means to come back to someone after wrong-doing and learn from our mistakes, forgiveness, and walking together. Another interesting fact is that the Indigenous peoples lived with the Megafauna (giant marsupials, mammals, lizards and birds that lived around twelve thousand years ago) so maybe some of the indigenous stories like Bunjil the Eagle and the Rainbow Serpent were inspired by Megafauna. Directly after was our scrumptious snack.

Onto the next segment, was our time to dream big! We had to brainstorm ideas for integrating Aboriginal culture and history into our school curriculum. We let our ideas flow out, in the end we got through two pages of dreams and ideas, from little things like displaying kids' drawings of Indigenous stories to something big like an Indigenous information night and we want to share it all to the school community. It was awesome.



Afterwards, we looked forward to our delicious lunch, followed by our commissioning ceremony. Standing around in a circle, our corroboree, we had a professed reading, followed by us getting commissioned, and talking about what it means to be a FIRE carrier subsequently leading to our lengthy expedition home.

The main thing we took out of it is how miraculous and rich the Indigenous culture and history is, there is so much knowledge to attain! I would like to thank the FIRE carrier teachers; Miss Fiona & Mrs Philbrick who took us to this phenomenal experience.

Nuwain De Silvia
Year 5 FIRE Carrier
Student Leader

Student News

Preps and Chicks!



School Community News

Thanks for Mulching!

A huge thank you to Libby, her husband and these legends for mulching our playground on Saturday morning!

Thank you for taking the time out of your Saturday to get the mulch done for our students!

We really appreciate it!!!!



Year 3/4 Find Plenty to See, Do and Learn at Scienceworks



P & F News

BILLY G'S COOKIE DOUGH

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Thank you so much for continuously supporting our school, especially through fundraising. We are excited to announce we are holding a Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough drive as a major fundraiser this term. We have had many requests from families to run this fundraiser because they can't get enough of this cookie dough.

To achieve our goal and become one step closer to building the new well-being pod, we would love every student to try and sell 3-4 tubs each. The best way to reach this goal is to share on social media and ask friends, family and work colleagues.

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough is an exciting fundraiser, made by an Australian, family owned and operated business. There are nine (9) dough-licious flavours to choose from, including the most popular Choc Chunk and Raspberry White Choc.

Get started! Students have now received a Billy G's Order Form with instructions on how to collect orders. Please note Billy G's is a completely cashless fundraiser. All orders must be placed online and paid by credit or debit card or PayPal, so make sure you create your online fundraising page at www.australianfundraising.com.au today!

Start Date: 24th May
Final Orders Due: 28th June
Estimated Delivery Date: 17th July

How do we create a Fundraising Page? Creating a fundraising page is easy!

1. Visit www.australianfundraising.com.au and click the "Cookie Dough Login" button on the home page. Then click the register button to fundraise on the cybersafe, Billy G's Cookie Dough platform.
2. Complete the registration details, Choose your goals and create a unique avatar!
3. Place your order using the "Order Now" button and share your fundraising page with your family and friends via the "Share" section so they can start buying some yummy cookie dough. Easy!

How do prizes work? Every student who sells 2 tubs will receive an incentive prize for their efforts! But why not aim higher? The more tubs you sell the more prizes you will receive! There are 11 prizes available, so set your own fundraising goal and aim for them all! Prizes are automatically ordered at the end of our fundraiser based on the number of tubs you have sold. You can also gain the chance to get your very own Billy G's Scented Gel Pens by obtaining all your online virtual badges.

Happy fundraising,
St Margaret's Parents & Friends

**RAISING FUNDS FOR OUR NEW
WELLBEING POD**

