

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Three, Week 1
July 15th, 2024
#21

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you had a restful break and are ready for an exciting Term 3. We are pleased to announce that Georgia will be joining us in the front office on Mondays and Tuesdays. She brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our team, and we are thrilled to have her back on board. We thank Narelle Crowe who did an outstanding job in her absence. Miss Tori will be taking this term to focus on her studies, and we wish her all the best in her academic pursuits. Jack has moved to a different state for his studies, and we thank him for his dedication and contributions to our school community.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Parents and Friends (P&F) association for the new picnic tables that were delivered over the school holidays and placed outside the prep rooms. These tables will provide wonderful new outdoor spaces for our students to enjoy. We would also like to thank all our families who supported the recent Cookie Dough Fundraiser. We raised an amazing \$ 2,172!! These will be ready to go home Wednesday. If you are free Wednesday we would love some helpers to get the dough orders ready for pick up.

This term, we will undergo a school review. The reviewer will be onsite and will speak to groups of staff, students, and parents. If you have any concerns about your child speaking with the reviewer, please let me know. Your feedback is important to us, and we want to ensure everyone feels comfortable with the process.



We are excited to celebrate NAIDOC Week with a variety of activities planned to honour and recognize the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week, is an annual celebration recognizing the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Each year, NAIDOC Week has a theme that highlights a specific aspect of Indigenous culture or history, encouraging us to engage with and reflect on the contributions of Indigenous

Australians. The 2024 theme is 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, loud and proud!'. At our school, we are dedicated to celebrating NAIDOC Week with activities designed to educate and engage our students, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. Celebrating NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for our school community to recognize and honour the rich cultural heritage of Australia's First Peoples, reflect on the past, and commit to building a more inclusive and respectful society. Our FIRE carriers will be leading this week's assembly this week, with a focus on NAIDOC week. There is also a display in our main hallway. We encourage you to join us in this celebration and discuss its significance with your children.

We have a busy and engaging term ahead, full of learning opportunities and events. Let's work together to make it a great one!

Susan

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

(new items in bold)

Term 3

July

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| Monday, July 15 th | First Day of Term 3. We welcome staff & students. |
| Wednesday, July 17 th | Cookie Dough Order arrives for collection |
| Friday, July 19th | Assembly - Fire Carriers presenting |
| Tuesday, July 23rd | Grandparents' Day & Mass 12pm |
| Tuesday, July 23 rd | P&F lunch - Cheer Truck |
| Thursday, July 25th | School Review Day 1 |
| Friday, July 26th | Assembly - Year 5/6 presenting |
| Monday, July 29th | Year 5/6 Railway Incursion |
| Tuesday, July 30 th | School Board 7pm |

August

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| Thursday, August 1st | District Athletics at Goldsworthy; selected students |
| Friday, August 2nd | Whole School Green & Gold Day (Olympics) |
| Monday, August 5th-9th | Matific Math Olympiad |
| Wednesday, August 7th | Emmaus Meal for students making First Eucharist - 6pm |
| Thursday, August 8 th | Australian Maths Competition Years 3-6 |
| Thursday, August 8th | Feast Day Mary of the Cross; 3-6 Mass, 12pm |
| Friday, August 9th | ICT Leaders Excursion |
| Friday, August 9th | Assembly - Year 3/4 presenting |
| Monday, August 12th | School Review Day 2 |
| Monday, August 12th-16th | Book Week |
| Wednesday, August 14 th | Book Week Dress-up day. Theme: "Reading is Magic" |
| Thursday, August 15th | Great Book Swap: Indigenous Literacy Foundation |
| Thursday, August 15th | School Review Day 3 |
| Friday, August 16 th | School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning |
| Sunday, August 18 th | Sacrament of First Eucharist; St Mary's Basilica, 2.30pm |
| Monday, August 19 th | 3 way conversations 2-6pm |
| Tuesday, August 20 th | 3 way conversations 4-6pm |
| Friday, August 23rd | Assembly - Year 1/2 presenting |
| Monday, August 26th | Smile Patrol Dental |
| Monday, August 26th-30th | Year 3/4 Swimming Programme |
| Thursday, August 29th | Prep/1/2 Liturgy 10.15am |
| Friday, August 30 th | Donuts with Dad - 8am |
| | Raffle draw |
| | Father's Day Stall |
| Saturday, August 31 st | P&F Bake Sale |

September

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| Monday, September 2nd-5th | Year 5/6 Swimming Programme |
| Tuesday, September 3 rd | School Board 7pm |
| Tuesday, September 3 rd | Bravehearts Incursion Prep & 1/2 PB |
| Wednesday, September 3 rd | Bravehearts Incursion 1/2 TB & 1/2 JB |
| Thursday, September 5th | Year 5/6 Rail Project Incursion |
| Thursday, September 5th | School Review Day 4 |
| Friday, September 6 th | Italian Day |
| | P&F pizza lunch |
| Friday, September 6th | Assembly - Prep presenting |
| Thursday, September 12 th | R U OK? - Wear a touch of yellow |

...continued over

Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

September continued

- Thursday, September 19th** **Footy Colours Day; Gold Coin donation.**
P&F Pie lunch
Longest kick event
- Tuesday, September 20th Final day of Term 3; 1.30pm dismissal - Sports uniform

Term 4

October

- Monday, October 7th First Day of Term 4
Tuesday, October 15th School Board 7pm
Monday, October 21st **School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning**
Tuesday, October 29th **Year 5/6 ONLY Student Free Day** (staff TIL day for camp)
Wednesday, October 30th Year 5/6 Camp - Anglesea (until Friday, November 1st)

November

- Monday, November 4th **School Closure Day**
Tuesday, November 5th **Melbourne Cup public holiday**
Wednesday, November 6th-8th Prep Swimming Programme
Thursday, November 21st Sacrament of First Reconciliation: 12 noon
Monday, November 11th-15th Year 1/2 Swimming Programme

December

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



Smile Patrol School Dental

[Smile Patrol Flyer](#)

[Smile Patrol Information Book](#)

To sign up you can visit : <https://smilepatrol.com.au/consent-form/>

It's very easy and takes less than 5 minutes to complete. A paper form was sent home last term and either it, or the online consent must be completed **by the deadline July 26th, 2024** (online consent preferable)

St Margaret's Primary School



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Ph 5229 7453



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Curriculum News

MACS: Vision for Instruction: How Students Learn

As we reported via letter in the last week of school, St Margaret's welcomed Deputy Premier and Education Minister Ben Carroll's statement that the Allan Labor Government will embed evidence-aligned instruction in every classroom in the State from 2025. This announcement coupled with the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) release of 'Flourishing Learners - Vision for Instruction' in February, empowers schools like St Margaret's, which have been actively adopting evidence-based teaching methods over the past 18 months, to continue their journey with comprehensive statewide support for enhancing instruction and curriculum.

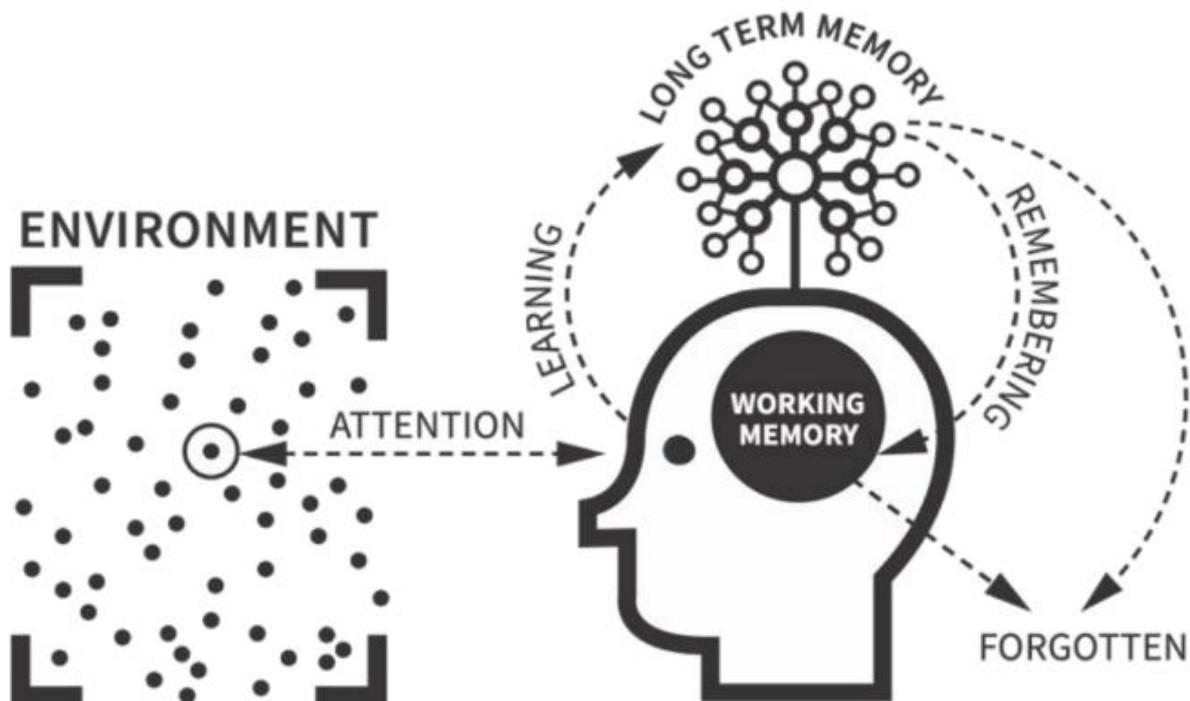
By 2030, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) aims to become 'the benchmark for excellence in teaching and learning, through a coherently integrated, academically competitive and distinctively Catholic educational offering' (*MACS 2030: Forming Lives to Enrich the World*).

All Catholic Schools in Victoria are undergoing education reform in order to realise this 2030 Vision. The Flourishing Learners position statement, *Vision for Instruction*, is a key document underpinning the MACS 2030 strategic plan. *Vision for Instruction* has been crafted to communicate MACS' preferred system-wide approach to achieving teaching and learning excellence. It is firmly grounded in the evidence of how students learn most effectively and efficiently, providing clear guidance for MACS schools on instructional best practice.

MACS has used cognitive science research to unpack how students learn and the practical applications this has for teaching and learning.

Put simply,

Learning is "a change in long-term memory The aim of all instruction is to alter long-term memory. If nothing has changed in long-term memory, nothing has been learned." Kirschner, Sweller, & Clark, 2016



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Curriculum News

Through the Vision for Instruction, MACS has identified cognitive processes that impact how student's learn and the implications these have on teaching instruction. To summarise:

- Teachers must create a learning-focused environment so that students are able to attend to the important information, and are actively engaged when learning.
- Student's require formal teaching and explicit instruction to teach them what they do not know.
- Thinking occurs when we combine information from our environment and from our long term memory in new ways. Working memory is the space where we think.
- Working memory has limits. Students can only process limited amounts of new information so the cognitive load of learning tasks must be managed.
- Long term memory storage is infinite. However, teachers must maximise retention, consolidation and application of learning so that students can develop and demonstrate mastery and the ability to recall and remember this information.
- Knowledge builds on knowledge. Students who have lots of knowledge about topics across the curriculum find that new knowledge 'sticks' to it, building understanding that grows and grows.
- Novices and experts learn differently.

At St. Margaret's, we have been aligning our instructional practices with this vision, focusing on improving behaviour routines, establishing learning-centric environments, managing cognitive load, and implementing structured, explicit instruction strategies. We are also integrating daily reviews of previously taught material to optimise retention and application of knowledge, informed by research such as Ebbinghaus's Forgetting Curve. Our upcoming school closure day in August will further delve into these strategies alongside over 700 local Catholic education teachers and leaders, exploring their impact on student learning.

If you would like more information about our Vision for Instruction, please take the time to read the MACS document which can be found here:

<https://www.macs.vic.edu.au/Our-Schools/Curriculum-Learning-Programs/Vision-for-Instruction.aspx>

If you would like more information on how students learn, this recent paper is a good place to start as it provides a good overview of the learning process and the most effective teaching practices.

[AERO – How students learn best \(edresearch.edu.au\)](https://www.edresearch.edu.au/aero-how-students-learn-best)

We look forward to continuing to enhance our instructional approach in line with these principles and sharing more updates throughout the term.



SCHOOLS LOVE IT!

PARENTS LOVE IT!

STUDENTS LOVE IT!

Enrolment forms at the office, and you can also register online. <https://chessforschools.com.au/>

**St Margaret's PS
Parents & Friends**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Can you help on any of the
following dates/times.**

- Wednesday 17th July - Packing
Cookie Dough & Prizes from 2pm
- Tuesday 23rd July Grandparents
Day Cheer Truck 12pm -1.30pm
- Friday 30th August - Donuts
with Dad set up 7.30am
- Friday 30th August - Bake
Sale Drop off from 8.30am
& 3pm
- Friday 30th August -
Father's Day Stall from 9am
- Saturday 31st August -
Bake Sale Stall - 1 Hour
shifts from 8am



**Please contact the school office on 5229 7453 to pop
your name and phone number down on the roster.**



GREEN DAY & GOLD DAY

FRIDAY 2 AUGUST 2024



We're turning Australia green & gold on Friday 2 August in support of the Australian Olympic Team competing in Paris.

Green & Gold Day is for everyone. Show your support and turn your school Green and Gold for the day.

This day is about painting the country in our national colours and celebrating Australia's sporting achievements on the Olympic stage!!!



We invite you to be part of the action and show your support

Share your green and gold day celebrations by tagging
[@AUSOlympicTeam](#) [#GreenandGoldDay](#) [#Allezaus](#)

#ALLEZAUS

'Let's Go Australia'





GREENDAY & GOLDDAY

FRIDAY 2 AUGUST 2024

Inspiration to bring Green & Gold day alive in your school:

- ✓ Invite students and staff to embrace the Green & Gold! This could include clothing, accessories and face paint. Encourage creativity and offer prizes for the most spirited outfits.
- ✓ Host a Mini Olympics Event! Encourage older students to lead activities and invite your school community to join in the fun.
- ✓ Explore the Have A Go resource to learn more about inspiring students of all ages to start playing Olympic sports.
- ✓ Have an Olympian or aspiring Olympian visit your classroom with Olympics Unleashed – [register for a visit today!](#)
- ✓ Tune into [Olympics Unleashed TV](#)
- ✓ Visit the Olympics Unleashed website to learn more about how to register your interest to have Olympians and aspiring Olympians visit your school to inspire and motivate students to be their personal best.

#ALLEZAUS

'Let's Go Australia'

Yarning and Sharing Webinar

Yarning about resources to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who are autistic.



This webinar is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators, allied health professionals, parent and carers. Join us for an hour of yarning.



Wednesday 10th July 2024
12.30pm - 1.30pm AEST



Scan the QR code to register or click [here](#)

Participants that attend receive a certificate following the webinar.

During the webinar you will learn about:

- Culturally safe resources
- Dedicated Yarning and Sharing workshops for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
- Dedicated Yarning and Sharing workshops for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators.



Positive Partnerships acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land and pays respect to the Elders both past and present and their continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices

For enquiries or to register, email Adam Howie:
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Call:
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