

# NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's  
Primary School

Term Four, Week 7  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
#35

## From Susan's Desk

Dear Families,

On Friday, we gathered to celebrate the feast of Saint Margaret and a remarkable milestone — the 75th anniversary of our school's opening! St. Margaret's Day offered a chance to reflect on the school's rich history, rooted in the values and spirit of its namesake, Saint Margaret of Scotland, and the vibrant community of East Geelong that has supported it through the years.

St. Margaret's East Geelong, has grown from its modest beginnings into a nurturing environment where students are inspired to pursue knowledge and faith. Established in 1948, our school has always aimed to carry on the values of compassion, resilience, and dedication embodied by Saint Margaret. Over the decades, it has become a cornerstone of the community, offering students a place to grow intellectually and spiritually, with Saint Margaret's ideals as their guiding light.

The day was marked by a beautiful, whole-school liturgy, bringing together students, staff and families to honour the legacy of Saint Margaret and the history of our school. Through prayer and reflection, we explored how her example continues to shape us today. Known for her kindness and deep faith, Saint Margaret dedicated her life to helping others, reforming the church, and leading with a strong sense of charity and justice. Her unwavering commitment to service reminds us of our mission to serve others with integrity and compassion.

As we celebrated both our patron saint and our school's founding, we were reminded of the enduring impact of Saint Margaret's values, which remain as relevant today as they were in her lifetime. This anniversary highlighted not just the past but also our continued commitment to fostering a community where every individual is supported in faith, learning, and service.

In addition to our St. Margaret's Day liturgy, our students had a fantastic time participating in KABOOM sports. The event was a highlight of the day, with students from all year levels getting involved in fun, high-energy games and activities designed to promote teamwork, fitness, and school spirit. The day was filled with enthusiasm as students cheered each other on, encouraging everyone to give their best effort. KABOOM sports brought our community together in the true spirit of Saint Margaret, emphasizing collaboration, resilience, and joy.

Throughout the day, students also engaged in classroom activities dedicated to learning more about Saint Margaret and our school's heritage. These activities provided valuable insights into Saint Margaret's life and how her values of kindness, service, and faith have shaped our school culture. Through discussions, projects, and reflections, students explored her influence and considered how they, too, can embody her values in their daily lives.

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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.

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## ***Leadership and Management News***

To add to the celebrations, the Parents and Friends Association generously donated a delicious cupcake to celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday as well as organising our special sausage sizzle lunch.

Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to help make the day special, whether by helping out at the sausage sizzle, preparing the cupcakes, or attending our liturgy. We are also especially grateful to Joel Kearney, our Religious Education Leader, whose hard work and thoughtful planning brought together each aspect of the day's events seamlessly. His dedication ensured that this 75th-anniversary celebration honoured both the legacy of Saint Margaret and the school's enduring commitment to faith, community, and learning.

As we prepare for the end of the year, we will be farewelling some staff in the coming newsletters. We will take the time to thank them for their time and commitment at St Margaret's and to wish them well on their new ventures. Staffing for 2025 is continuing to be finalised, as our 2025 classes. We will keep our families informed of these decisions during our Step Up orientation sessions.

Have a great week!  
Susan

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## ***2025 Fee Structure***

<b>FAMILY FEE</b>	\$1700
<b>CURRICULUM LEVY</b> Includes: incursions, excursions, all classroom stationary, workbooks, whiteboards & markers, handwriting books, spelling text book, class novels, class resources, swimming program.	\$420
<b>P-2 ICT LEVY</b> Includes: iPad maintenance and upgrades. Usage in the classroom.	\$60
<b>3-6 ICT LEVY</b> Includes 1-1 Chromebook usage & updates.	\$120
<b>5 /6 CAMP</b>	\$320
<b>MAINTENANCE</b> Includes: garden maintenance, installation of bark and sand, OH&S risk management & compliance.	\$220

*Items left at school from the 3/4 sleepover and 5/6 camp. Please collect from office if you recognize any of these.*



**Calendar of Events**

(new items in bold)

**Term 4**

**November**

Monday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, Nov 20<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation Preparation Evening 5:30pm**  
**House Captain Excursion to GMHBA Stadium**  
Assembly – 1/2 presenting  
Sacrament of First Reconciliation: 12 noon  
GALS at Deakin 9.30-2.30 for Year 6 girls  
Assembly – Prep presenting  
RSVP for Year 6 Graduation due

**December**

Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
  
Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

Year 5/6 excursion to Adventure Park  
2025 School Captain speeches & leadership applications due  
GALS project launch  
**School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning**  
Whole School Step Up Orientation Day  
2025 Prep Orientation Session 3  
Parent Session 9.30-10.45.  
School Board 7pm  
Welling Pod Official Opening  
Whole School Carols Evening  
Whole School Movie & Picnic end of year celebration  
Year 6 Graduation  
Final day of Term 4. 1.30pm dismissal

**2025 Start Dates**

**January**

Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>  
  
Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>

Staff Day. Student Free Day  
1-1 testing P-6  
Year 1-6 First Day of School for 2025  
1-1 Prep testing  
Prep First Day of School. All P-6 onsite.

**All library books due back by Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> please.**

**St Margaret's Primary School**



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Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

*School Community News*

**St Margaret's Christmas Concert**  
**Important Information**

The students of St Margaret's have been busy preparing a Christmas performance to be presented at this year's Christmas concert. We would love for all families to join us on the Junior Basketball Courts on **Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please see below some important details regarding the evening.

**Costumes:** All students are asked to wear a Christmas themed/coloured outfit of their choice.

- Please arrive at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start.
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- Food and Drinks available for purchase:
  - P&F BBQ
  - Baked Potato Van
  - Alternatively BYO Picnic
- BYO Chairs and Picnic Rugs
- Students are to be seated in their assigned area with their teachers at 5.55pm ready to begin at 6pm. They will remain in this space until the end of the concert.



Our staff will be selling Christmas items on the night to continue to raise funds for class sets of novels in 2025.

The following items will be for sale until sold out:

- Christmas slap bands (\$2)
- Small Christmas bouncy balls (\$2)
- Bubble wands (\$2)
- Small packet of Oreos (\$1)
- Zooper Dooper Icy Poles (\$1)



We ask that all students and families remain until the end of the concert to ensure all our students perform to an audience.

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to a wonderful evening!





# SLOW



As we work together to ensure the safety of all students and families at our school, we kindly ask that you slow down when driving in the rear carpark.

We've noticed that some drivers are rushing through, and this creates potential hazards for children, staff, and other vehicles. Please remember:

- **Speed Limit:** 10 km/h (walking speed)
- **Be aware of pedestrians:** Always watch out for students.
- **Stay patient:** Allow enough time to park safely and exit the area without rushing.
- **Follow all signage:** Obey the marked traffic flow to keep things moving smoothly.

The safety of our school community is our top priority, and we appreciate your help in creating a safe environment for everyone. Let's work together to ensure our students stay safe and secure as they arrive and depart from school.

Thank you for your cooperation.