

# NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's  
Primary School

*Term Two, Week 6*  
*May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025*  
*#16*

## *From Susan's Desk*

Dear Families,

Our school garden project is now well underway, and we couldn't be more excited! A huge thank you goes out to all the parents, families, and staff who generously gave their time and energy to support the working bee. The event was a wonderful success, and it was heartwarming to see our community come together to improve the school grounds for our students.

The tree drive is now open, and we invite all families to participate. You can donate through the Flexischools app by purchasing a tree for the school or even one for your home. You can also make a general donation of any amount. Every contribution helps us build a beautiful new garden space that will be enjoyed by all our students for years to come. A special thank you to Maggie Walker for her incredible effort in organising this initiative—your dedication has made a lasting impact on our school community. The students are already buzzing with excitement about what's to come!

Our students have also been very busy this week with a number of exciting extracurricular opportunities. The Year 5/6 students participated in the Lightning Premiership competition, representing our school in AFL and netball. They played with passion, pride, and excellent sportsmanship—well done to all involved! In cross country, a select group of students qualified for the district competition, and we are very proud of their achievements and determination. Congratulations to Franki from 3/4HM, who has qualified for regionals and will be racing at Keilor Park on June 19th.

We were also fortunate to host a cyber safety incursion led by Victoria Police for our senior students. The session focused on the importance of staying safe online, with key messages around responsible digital behaviour and protecting personal information. It was a powerful reminder of how vital cyber security is in today's world.

On Wednesday, our school proudly participated in National Simultaneous Storytime. This year's featured book was *"The Truck Cat"*, by Deborah Frenkel read aloud to over 2 200 000 children across Australia at the exact same time. Our students loved being a part of this shared experience, which celebrates the joy of reading and the magic of storytelling. Events like these help foster a love of books and remind us all just how powerful reading can be.

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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.

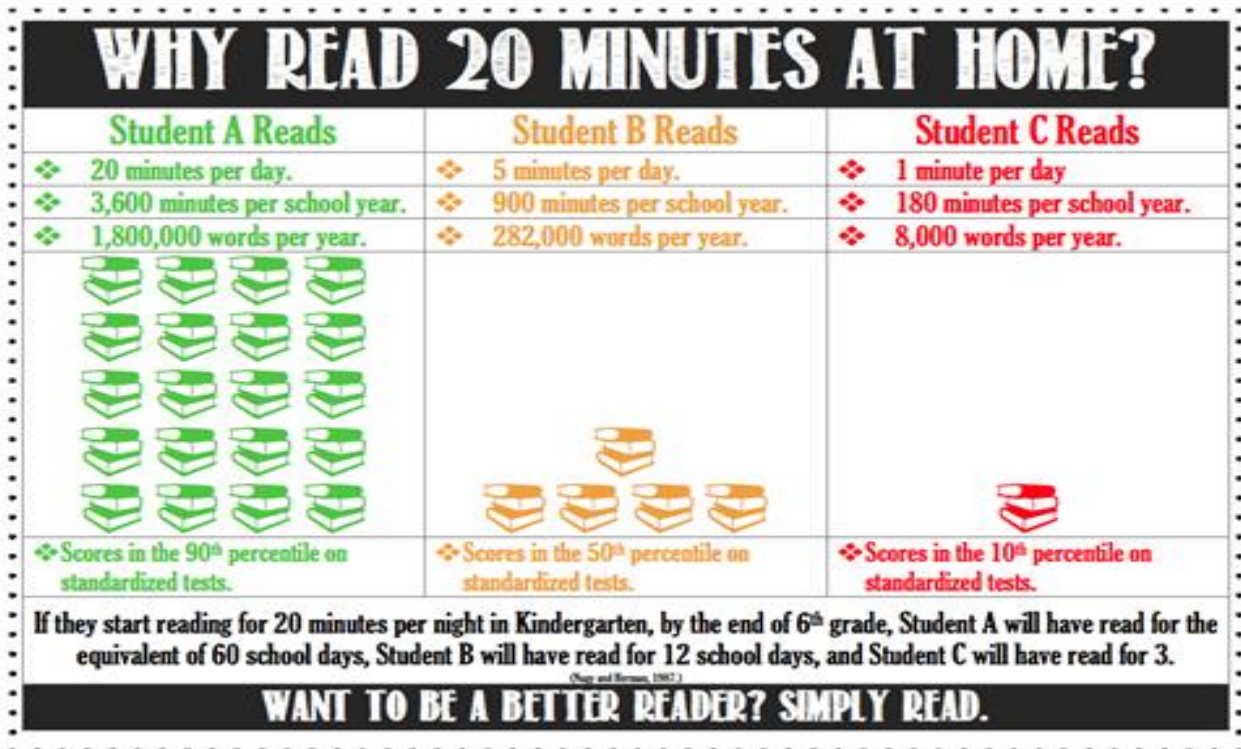


All students attending St Margaret's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school. St Margaret's is a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of all children and young people are respected and valued.



## Learning and Teaching News

Speaking of reading, we'd like to emphasise the importance of reading at home. Research shows that children who read at home regularly perform better academically and develop stronger language skills. In fact, students who read for just 20 minutes a day outside of school are exposed to nearly 2 million words each year! We encourage all families to make home reading a daily habit—it's one of the most powerful ways to support your child's learning.



We'd also like to highlight the importance of regular school attendance. Every day at school matters. Students who attend consistently are more engaged, more connected socially, and achieve better academic outcomes. School is not just about learning—it's where friendships are formed, routines are built, and confidence grows. Please support your child by ensuring they attend school every day unless they are unwell. Remember: school is better when you're here!

If your child is absent, it is essential that you inform the school office and your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible. This is a crucial part of our child safety policy. It ensures that all students are accounted for and safe each day. Thank you for helping us maintain a secure and caring environment for every student.

At St Margaret's, we are committed to developing independence and resilience in all our students. A simple but important step in this journey is encouraging students to enter the school or classroom each morning independently. We kindly ask families to say goodbye at the gate or the classroom door to support this routine. Prep students will be assisted in this transition by additional staff near the Prep classrooms. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please email them directly to arrange a suitable meeting time, as mornings are a critical time for staff to prepare for the day and support students who require a calm, settled start. Please avoid unplanned visits, as teachers are unable to engage in conversations during this time. We also ask that you use your child's teacher's email rather than Seesaw for these communications. Staff will respond and offer an appointment time as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support.

Have a great week!

Susan Perks

## Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

### Term Two

#### May

Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

3/4 Coastal Nectar Incursion

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>

FIRE Carriers excursion to GMHBA

Tree Drive orders close

School Assembly (Years 3/4)

Story Dogs

#### June

Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Book club orders due

Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>

1/2 Excursion Werribee Zoo

Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

Story Dogs

**Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**

**King's Birthday public holiday**

**Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

School Assembly (Years 1/ 2)

P&F Special Lunch

Story Dogs

Working Bee (planting /tree collection)

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>

Working Bee (planting /tree collection)

Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>

Division Soccer - Selected Students

Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>

Story Dogs

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

School Board 7pm

Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

Division Tee-Ball – Selected Students

Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

School Assembly (Prep)

Story Dogs

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

School Board 7pm

#### July

Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Reports to Parents

Term Two ends - 1.30pm dismissal

### Term Three

#### July

**Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>**

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>

Students begin Term Three

#### August

Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

School Board 7pm

Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Book Fair Week

Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

Emmaus Meal 5.30pm

Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

Book Week begins 'Book an Adventure'

Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>

Book Week Dress Up Parade

Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>

Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

#### September

Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

School Board 7pm

Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

Term Three ends. 1.30pm dismissal

*Dear God, thank you for this new week and all of its blessings.*

*Guide my thoughts, words, and actions throughout the week.*

*Help me to be a source of love and support for those around me. Amen.*



## Calendar of Events

### Term Four

#### October

**Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

Students begin Term Four

School Board 7pm

#### November

**Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

Wed-Fri, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

**School Closure Day**

**Melbourne Cup Public holiday**

Year 5/6 students at Camp Kangarooobie

Year 5/6 only, student free day (TIL staff day)

Remembrance Day

Penance Preparation Family Evening 5.30pm

Sacrament of Penance 12 noon

#### December

**Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

School Board 7pm

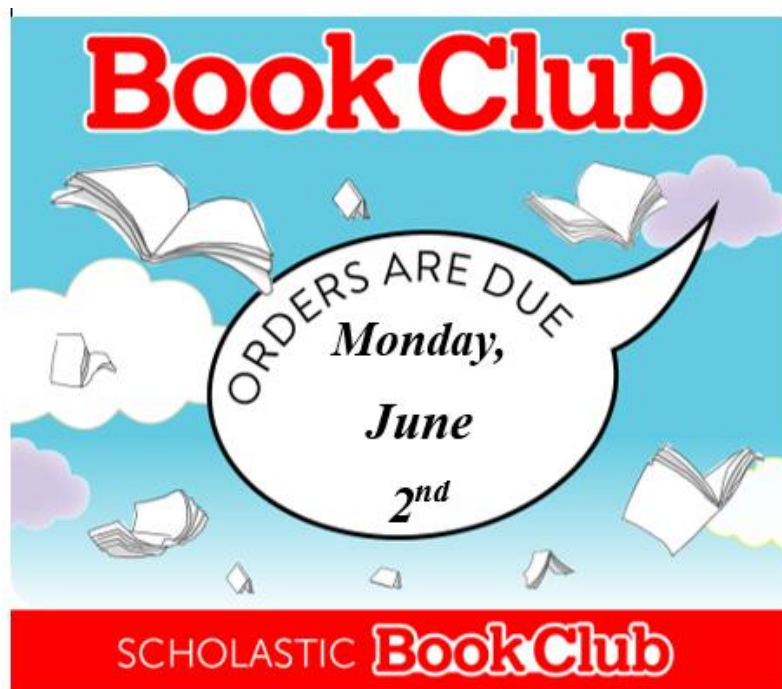
Year 6 Graduation

End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

Issue 4 of Bookclub has been made available to students interested.

Thanks to the families supporting bookclub; both enriching your childrens' lives with books, and enabling the school to use a percentage of orders received for stocking our own library with books.

Some of the books we've recently purchased (most have already been borrowed!)...



### St Margaret's Primary School



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East Geelong 3219

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Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald [lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au)

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



## School Community News

### Cross Country

A huge congratulations to all our Division Cross Country runners who competed on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. You all represented St. Margaret's with pride and fantastic effort! Best of luck to Franki from 3/4HM, who has qualified for Regionals and will be racing at Keilor Park on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Go Franki!





## ***School Community News***

### ***Lightning Premiership: Boys Football***

Congratulations to our St. Margaret's boys football team, who were outstanding at the District competition held at South Barwon Reserve on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The boys played with skill, teamwork, and determination, taking out the District title in impressive fashion. They now move on to represent our school at the Division Football Competition on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Well done boys, we're proud of you and can't wait to see what you can do next!



### ***Lightning Premiership: Netball***

Well done to all our St. Margaret's netball teams who competed at the District level on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It was fantastic to see a great mix of male and female students representing our school with teamwork, effort, and great sportsmanship. A special congratulations to one of our teams, who finished the day as District Champions and will now head to the Division Competition on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Awesome effort, everyone and good luck to our team heading to Division!





## ***School Community News***

*Thank you to our Sustainability Leaders helping to prepare our garden project. Leadership in action!*



## ***National Simultaneous Storytime***





*together in faith*

*School Community News*

# ST MARGARET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL **TREE DRIVE**

**BUY A TREE  
FOR HOME**

**MAKE A  
DONATION**

**SPONSOR  
A TREE**

FROM LITTLE SEEDS,  
BIG THINGS GROW





## **BUY A TREE FOR HOME**

- Order a mature-sized tree for your home via Flexischools
- Get it delivered to school for pick-up or straight to your door!
- A portion of each sale supports the school garden

## **SPONSOR A TREE**

- Choose a tree from our garden wishlist on Flexischools
- Your family's name will be added to a plaque at the tree
- A lovely way to leave your mark (no shovel required!)

## **MAKE A DONATION**

- Make a donation. No tree required!
- Every dollar supports the creation of our new garden space

Check out the full list of available trees and donation options on the Flexischools app. Can't see anything you like?

Call Luke on 0490 400 038.

Trees delivered to the school or your home: 13-14 June

Pick-up dates: 14 & 16 June