

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Three, Week 4
August 11th, 2025
#24

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

This Wednesday at 5:30pm, we invite students and families who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist to join us for the Emmaus Meal. This is a significant and sacred gathering, offering time for reflection, connection, and prayer as part of the journey towards receiving this holy sacrament. As Catholics, the Eucharist lies at the heart of our faith—it is a moment of deep spiritual meaning, celebrating Christ's presence in our lives and our communion with one another. The Emmaus Meal is a special opportunity for families to come together and honour the importance of this next step in their child's faith journey. We strongly encourage all those involved to attend and share in this meaningful experience.

I encourage all our parents of students in Years 3-6 to join us at St Margaret's for a warm and engaging session with Miss Margie as she shares the importance of mental health and wellbeing education and gives you a glimpse into what your child has been exploring throughout the year. With over 25 years of experience in education and a passion for creating safe, dynamic spaces for learning, Miss Margie brings both heart and skill to her work. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and carers to connect, ask questions, and discover how we're supporting students in building confidence, resilience and emotional literacy. Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 27th to Susan.

As we move through the term, our swimming program will begin with great enthusiasm from our students!. A reminder to families that swimming caps are compulsory for all students. Rash vests are also highly recommended, not only for water safety but as part of our school's commitment to child safe practices. These simple measures help ensure a safe and respectful environment for all students when participating in off-site activities.

Congratulations to our students who took part in the recent District Sports event. Their teamwork, sportsmanship and energy were outstanding, and we're proud of the way they represented St Margaret's. A big thank you to Mr Wilson for his organisation and to Miss Fiona and Miss Tania for attending on the day to support students and ensure the event ran smoothly. It was a great success for our school team.

Our Book Fair is now open, and we invite families to come along, make a purchase, and support the school in the lead-up to Book Week. Book Week is a special time at St Margaret's, where we celebrate the magic of reading and the power of stories to shape young minds. Reading at home each night, even for just 10 to 15 minutes, can make a huge difference to a child's vocabulary, comprehension and overall academic achievement. When combined with regular school attendance, daily reading becomes one of the most important habits in a child's educational journey. Thank you for continuing to foster a love of books at home and helping us build strong, confident learners.

Have a great week!

Susan Perks

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 Three

August

Mon-Fri, Aug 11 th -15 th	Matific Math Olympiad Book Fair Week
Wednesday, August 13 th	Emmaus Meal 5.30pm
Friday, August 15 th	Assembly – Year 3/4 presenting Feast of the Assumption; St Mary's Mass Yrs 4-6 Father's Day Raffle Opens
Monday, August 18 th	Book Week begins 'Book an Adventure' "Ruggie, Plushie, Read" event 2.20pm Swimming week for 3/4 Family Quiz activity sent home – return on Thursday
Tuesday, August 19 th	Book Week Dress Up Parade
Thursday, August 20 th	Book Week activities morning
Friday, August 22 nd	100 days of Prep Celebration
Monday, August 25 th	Parent Teacher interviews 2pm-5.40pm Digital Tattoo Parent Info session by BatForce 6.30-8.00pm
Wednesday, August 27 th	Parent Teacher interviews 3:30pm-6:00pm Parents & Friend Meeting Staff Room 7pm
Friday, August 29 th	Assembly – Year 1/2 presenting St Margaret's Cultural Day
Sunday, August 31 st	Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

September

Monday, September 1 st	Swimming week for Year 1/2 Ready to Launch Parent Session by BatForce 6.30-8.00pm
Monday, Sep 1 st - 3 rd	Year 6 AFL Camp POSTPONED
Wednesday, September 3rd	Mental Health & Wellbeing Session with Miss Margie 9-10am
Friday, September 5 th	Donuts with Dad from 8am. Father's Day Raffle Draw Father's Day Stall
Saturday, September 6 th	Father's Day Bake Sale 8am-1pm
Tuesday, September 9 th	School Board 7pm
Friday, September 12 th	Assembly – Prep presenting
Thursday, September 18 th	Footy Colours Casual Dress Day & Pie Special Lunch (P&F)
Friday, September 19 th	Term Three ends. 1.30pm dismissal

Silence is Golden...

unless you have kids, then silence is just suspicious.

St Margaret's Primary School



83 St Albans Road
East Geelong 3219

Ph 5229 7453



Website: www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Susan Perks sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au

Office Managers: Anne Miller amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au

Georgia Kavenagh gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au

Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au

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

Calendar of Events cont.

Term Four

October

Monday, October 6th

Tuesday, October 7th

Friday, October 10th

Monday, October 13th

Tuesday, October 21st

Thursday, October 30th

School Closure Day - Staff PL

Students begin Term Four

Grandparents & Special People Lunch - Cheer Truck (P&F)

Swimming week for Prep

School Board 7pm

Specialist Spectacular from 3.30pm with P&F Sausage Sizzle

November

Monday, November 3rd

Tuesday, November 4th

Wed-Fri, Nov 5th-7th

Monday, November 10th

Tuesday, November 11th

Wednesday, November 12th

Friday, November 14th

Monday, November 17th

Thursday, November 20th

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

St Margaret's Feast Day

Swimming week for 5/6

Sacrament of Penance 12 noon

December

Friday, December 5th

Tuesday, December 9th

Monday, December 15th

Tuesday, December 16th

School Closure Day - Staff PL

School Board 7pm

Year 6 Graduation

End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

WEEK 5 IS BOOK WEEK (August 18th – 22nd)

MONDAY - Family Quiz - sent home Monday. Return by Thursday. Winners announced Friday / next newsletter. Each family with all correct answers will receive a bookmark assortment pack.

After lunch - Ruggie, Plushie, Read - bring a rug, plushie or soft toy and your favourite book and let's get settled around the school for an afternoon of comfy reading. Parents invited after 3pm.

TUESDAY, first thing - Book Parade Dress Up Day - on the basketball court weather permitting. Followed by photos and voting for the best books.

THURSDAY - Book Week Rotations - in each class



School Community News



SMILE PATROL
SCHOOL DENTAL

Is on its way!

**Victorian School
Dental Health Service**

Smile Patrol School Dental

**Smile Patrol School Dental will be visiting our school
the week of Monday October 20th, 2025.**

Smile Patrol provides free dental health education to all students. If your child is eligible under the Childcare Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) treatments can be done for free depending on the remaining benefits. If your child is not eligible we will send you an email with an option for a private checkup. But to do this we need your consent.

If you would like more information, please refer to the website: [School Services – Smile Patrol](#)

To sign up you can visit : [School and Childcare Consent Form – Smile Patrol](#) It's very easy and takes less than 5 mins to complete. A paper form has been sent home this week, and

either it, or the online consent must be completed **by the deadline August 22nd, 2025** (online consent preferable)

Contact information: For more information please feel free to email: info@smilepatrol.com.au

**SWIMMING
LESSONS**

**CAPS COMPLUSARY
RASHIES ENCOURAGED**

YEAR 3 /4:	18-22 AUGUST
YEAR 1/ 2:	1-5 SEPTEMBER
YEAR PREP:	13-17 OCTOBER
YEAR 5/ 6:	17-21 NOVEMBER

GEE LONG AQUATIC CENTRE

School Community News

Mental Health & Wellbeing Session with Miss Margie – Wednesday 3 September 2025 9:00 – 10:00am


Join St Margaret's Primary School for a warm and engaging session with Miss Margie as she shares the importance of mental health and wellbeing education and gives you a glimpse into what your child has been exploring throughout this year.

With over 25 years in education and a passion for creating safe, dynamic spaces for learning, Miss Margie brings both heart and skill to her work. This session is a great opportunity to connect, ask questions, and discover how we're helping students build confidence, resilience, and emotional literacy.



RSVP: By Wed 27 Aug 2025 to sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au


Note: **Parents of students from Grade 3-6**



**COME TO OUR
BOOK FAIR!**

August 11 – 15
Monday 3.20pm
Tuesday 8.40am and 3.20pm
Wednesday 8.40am and 3.20pm
Thursday 8.40am and 3.20pm
Friday 8.40am

Special Invitation to Grandparents!
Books make great gifts!

 SCHOLASTIC

EVERY DOLLAR EQUALS RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL

 SCHOLASTIC



**SCHOLASTIC
REWARDS**



GEELONG GALLERY'S **WHO'S WHO?** PORTRAIT

30TH AUG-9H NOVEMBER

**FREE
ENTRY**

**STUDENT ARTWORK
SHOWCASE**

2025 ARCHIBALD PRIZE



GEELONG GALLERY: LITTLE MALOP STREET GEELONG 3220



READY TO LAUNCH: PARENT/CARER WORKSHOP

St Margaret's PS values the relationship they have with parents and carers and have taken the opportunity to invite you to a parent carer workshop. Young people will go through many transitions between 0-25 years, a number of them occurring at school. The last few years has reminded us how important it is to have Families & Schools on the same page when it comes to supporting their Young Person.

As Grown ups our job is not to build a future for our children but to equip them with the tools they require to build a future of their own. This presentation is interactive, focuses on strengths, looks at strategies & practices language that may be helpful in your family.

Topics:

- Building healthy & respectful relationships
- Supporting kids to ride the bumps
- Opportunities for rolemodelling
- Boundary setting & conflict resolution
- Importance of community connection
- Social media & secondary school
- Where to go when worry happens
- 'What's your plan?' tool

 6.30-8.00pm  Monday 1st Sept

 St Margaret's Primary School



batforce
BARROW AND ADJACENT TASK FORCE



With:

LEIGH BARTLETT

This is a BATForce/Parkbench presentation delivered by Leigh who has a background in education, wellbeing, sports coaching & has practiced the content on a few kids of her own. Leigh has presented many community workshops with Students, Families and Professionals.

**REGISTER NOW WITH
YOUR SCHOOL**

When your children go online – they have left the house

If the Young People in your world are:

- Using online platforms
- Gaming with friends
- Using chat /messenger functions
- Keen to have their own youtube channels
- Asking for personal devices & eager to access more online platforms



This session is for you!

DIGITAL TATTOO

Supporting Children as we introduce them to the world via the internet, social media/chat platforms and gaming is very much a conversation about relationships not the tech itself.

This workshop is for:

- parents and carers of primary aged students
- aims to complement information delivered by Vic Police and e-safety

Digital Tattoo focuses on how:

- Young People interact with each other
- parents and carers can create ongoing conversations that mirror their own family values
- we can support Young People as they grow in their online worlds
- families can create meaningful conversations about their families online footprints

Monday: 6.30 – 8.00pm
25 Aug 2025



**St Margaret's
Primary School**

READY TO LAUNCH STUDENT WORKSHOPS

LEIGH BARTLETT



Hi there,

I am excited to be reconnecting with the St Margaret's PS students and running some of our most popular workshops. I am a trained teacher who has worked with Young People for over 35 years. In 2025 I will be running student workshops in:

Tools to Launch (Year 3/4): 1 Sept

Content will include:

- being your authentic self
- looking out for your mates
- emotions and regulation
- healthy and respectful relationships
- leadership and communication
- repair vs conflict
- how we make choices
- respecting differences
- consent and ethics
- where to go when worry happens
- having a plan

and most importantly having great expectations of ourselves, those who are supporting us and each other.

Digital Tattoo (Year 5/6): 25 Aug

This workshop has been developed to complement the messages students receive in school everyday.

Content will include:

- ways to stay safe
- when and where to ask for help
- respect for self and others online
- recognising strange behaviour online
- impact of sharing information
- consent
- risks of sharing nude pics
- when someone shares content about you without your permission

and most importantly creating a digital footprint that your adult self would be proud of.

These interactive workshops have been developed to complement the information provided through 'Respectful Relationships' programs and are delivered through a healthy relationships framework.

A big thank you to the school for offering two parent/carer workshops to be held on the same nights as the student workshops (see flyers for more information). I hope to see you there. If you have any queries regarding these workshops, you can email me at leigh@batforce.org.au

Teacher testimonies:

"Was well pitched for our age group, students were engaged, gave us follow up activities".

"Leigh engaged our students perfectly and the content reflected an understanding of our school's needs."

"Wish we could have more regular sessions".

"Leigh was very flexible in moving the content based on student need".

Leigh Bartlett