

# NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's  
Primary School

*Term Four,  
Week 7  
November 17<sup>th</sup>,  
2025  
#36*

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## *From Susan's Desk*

## *Leadership and Management News*

Dear Families,

St. Margaret's Day celebrations were a great success last Friday, bringing our school community together for a special day of faith, fun, and dance! Our feast day honours St. Margaret of Scotland, a truly remarkable historical figure. Known as the "Pearl of Scotland," she was an English princess born in Hungary around 1045 who became the Queen of Scotland after marrying King Malcolm III. St. Margaret was celebrated for her deep piety, charitable works, and positive influence, promoting religious reform, education, and the arts, and showing extraordinary compassion for the poor and sick. She is a powerful model of using a position of influence for the good of others. Our celebration included a beautiful school liturgy, where we were delighted to formally meet and welcome our new assistant priest, Fr Vioth. A huge thank you is extended to our wonderful Parents and Friends Association (P&F) for their generous contribution of a special hot dog lunch for all the students. We also thank Joel Kearney for his organisation of the day. The festivities continued with the exciting involvement of Kinest 2 dance, who spent time teaching each year level a fun dance routine. The energy and effort from all our students culminated in a special assembly where the routines were presented. It was wonderful to see so many families join us for this assembly, sharing in the feast day celebration.

We had the pleasure of welcoming our 2026 Prep students for their second orientation session. They were successful in settling in and greatly enjoyed their time with us, and we are looking forward to seeing them again for their final session. This important final orientation will take place on our whole school Step Up Day, when all our students will have the opportunity to meet their 2026 teacher and classmates, marking a significant transition point for everyone. We will also have an information session for new families joining us in 2026 followed by a morning tea prior to the end of the orientation session at 11am.

As the school year draws to a close, we acknowledge and thank a number of valued staff members who will be leaving us. Joel Kearney has accepted an exciting new role as School Well Being Leader at St Anthony's Melton, and Emma Clancy will be moving to St Robert's Newtown as their Learning Diversity Leader. We also extend our thanks and best wishes to Margie Foulkes, Maya Bronszewski, Jess Tarrant, and Amanda Panozzo, who are concluding their time at St Margaret's. We thank each of them sincerely for their contribution to our school and for the dedication they have shown to our students over their time here. While they will all be missed greatly by our community, we wish them every success and happiness in their new roles and future endeavours for 2026.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate the state-wide suspension of the PAM platform. We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time and ask that you continue to communicate any student absences by phoning the office directly. We are sending all important communications, including our newsletter, via Gmail. We understand that some families may be missing this correspondence. Therefore, to ensure everyone receives the necessary information, we will be posting a quick message on SeeSaw each time a general email is sent out, and a hard copy of all distributed items will always be made available at the front office for collection. Thank you once again for your cooperation, understanding, and patience. We will share any updates regarding the restoration of the PAM platform as soon as they are communicated to us.

.... *Continued over*

Finally, a few important reminders for our senior students: our Year 5/6 students have their swimming program this week. Following this, our Year 6 students will be enjoying their AFL MAX camp on Monday and Tuesday, November 24th and 25th.

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.

*together in faith*



Dear Lord,  
Bless our school,  
That by working together and  
playing together.  
We may learn to serve you  
And to serve one another  
Amen.



## Calendar of Events

*New items in bold*

### Term Four

#### November

|                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Monday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>   | Swimming week for 5/6        |
| Thursday, November 20 <sup>th</sup> | Sacrament of Penance 12 noon |
| Monday, November 24 <sup>th</sup>   | Yr 6 AFL Max overnight camp  |
| Friday, November 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Assembly - 1/2 presenting    |

#### December

|                                           |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>          | 2026 Student Leadership speeches at 11:40am      |
| Tuesday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup>         | Adventure Park 5/6 Excursion                     |
| <b>Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>School Closure Day - Staff PL</b>             |
| Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup>         | Step Up Day                                      |
|                                           | 2026 Prep Orientation Session: 9.30-11.00am      |
| <b>Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Whole School Movie</b>                        |
| Thursday, December 11 <sup>th</sup>       | School Board & P&F dinner 7pm                    |
| Monday, December 15 <sup>th</sup>         | Year 6 Graduation                                |
| Tuesday, December 16 <sup>th</sup>        | Assembly - Prep presenting (note change of date) |
|                                           | End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal                |

### Beginning of the Year dates 2026

#### January

|                                     |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, January 28 <sup>th</sup> | 1-1 Testing* P-6                                 |
| Thursday, January 29 <sup>th</sup>  | Year 2-6 First Day of School for 2026            |
|                                     | 1-1 Testing* Prep & 1-1 Testing* Yr 1            |
| Friday, January 30 <sup>th</sup>    | Prep & Yr 1 First Day of School. All P-6 onsite. |

*\*You will be allocated a time for your child to meet with their teacher individually to complete some assessment tasks so we can determine their starting point of learning for 2026.*

## 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)

## St Margaret's Feast Day

**A big thank you to Bree from Kinect2Dance for our amazing dance experience!**



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## Remembrance Day Poem

Let us remember those who have died,  
Those who fought and those who tried.

Let us remember those who have fallen,  
Dead or alive they won't be forgotten.

Red poppies grow, the colour of blood,  
To help us remember the ones that we love.

During the war no birds will sing,  
This is a sign, danger is coming.

Crimson blood dripping on rocky stones  
Some gave their lives, others gave more

Today we gather listening to the bugle sounds  
Silence is on top of us, silence all around

Because when they paid their lives,  
Our families' hearts paid the cost.

As the war waged on and blood dripped into the sea,  
Soldiers fell to the ground and lost their family

Some of the buried were lost, some are unnamed.  
For this war they endured hate, and they endured pain.

By Charlotte N. 3/4EC



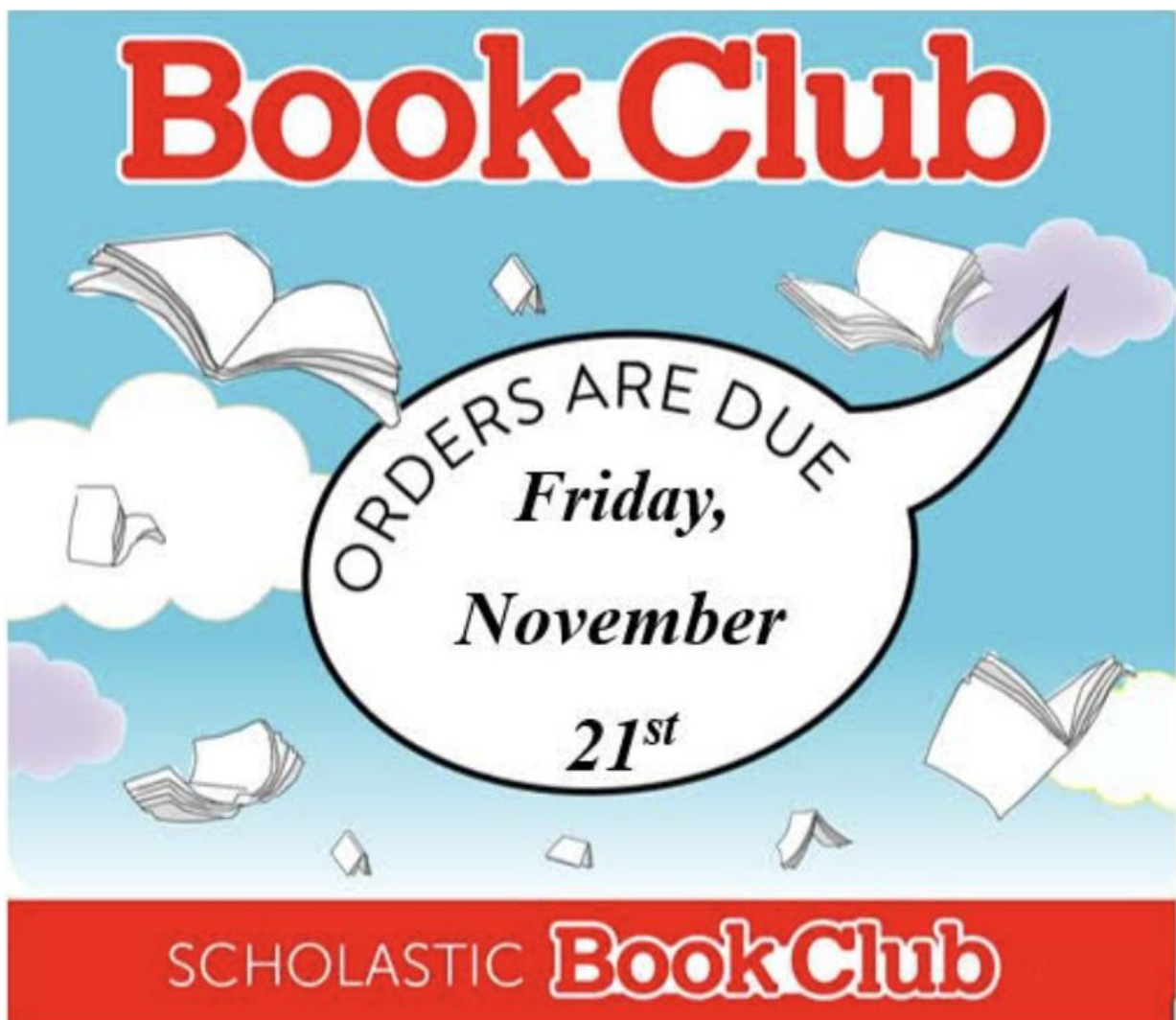
# 2027 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN

## Open Tour Dates:

- MONDAY 16 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- TUESDAY 17 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12.30 PM
- WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 9.00 AM – 10.30 AM
- WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- THURSDAY 19 MARCH 9.00 AM – 10.30 AM

**ENROL ONLINE NOW**

**IONA.VIC.EDU.AU**



**Book Club**

ORDERS ARE DUE  
*Friday,*  
*November*  
*21<sup>st</sup>*

SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**