

NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Four, Week 10
December 8th, 2025
#39

From Renée's Desk

Leadership and Management News



Dear Families,

Last Monday, our Year Five students applying for a 2026 school leadership position presented their speeches to their peers, teachers, and parents. All those that attended were truly impressed. The students' courage and determination in presenting these is admirable, and their hard work over the past few weeks was very clear to see. Students and staff voted for those they think will fulfil the requirements of these positions irrespective of gender. 2026 Year 6 students were also able to write an application to apply for the following leadership groups: Social Justice Leaders, FIRE Carrier Leaders, ICT Leaders, and Sustainability Leaders. Our 2026 Year 5 students also had an opportunity to apply for the student leadership positions of Liturgy Leader and FIRE Carrier. This ensures more of our students experience a leadership role and develop skills in readiness for our Year 6 positions. All positions will be announced at the final assembly on Tuesday December 16th beginning at 11.50am.

Last Tuesday, our Year 5 and 6 students enjoyed a memorable day at Adventure Park, marking their final major celebration for 2025. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to relax, connect, and celebrate their accomplishments throughout the year, especially for our Year 6 students as they look ahead to their final few weeks at St Margaret's. The students and staff took on the water slides, enjoyed the various rides, and simply spent time together, creating lasting memories. The day was a resounding success, and we extend our thanks to our dedicated Year 5/6 teachers and Learning Support Officers (LSOs) who worked tirelessly to organise this fantastic excursion and who shared in all the fun and excitement of the day, ensuring it was safe, well-managed, and highly enjoyable for everyone. Their commitment to celebrating our students is appreciated.

On Tuesday, we have our Step-Up morning from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Our students will work with their 2026 teacher and classmates for this time, getting to know each other and the room where they will be working in for 2026. We will also welcome our 2026 Prep students for their final orientation session and any new students joining our school in the new year. After recess, students will return to their 2025 classrooms.

...continued over

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.

Leadership and Management News

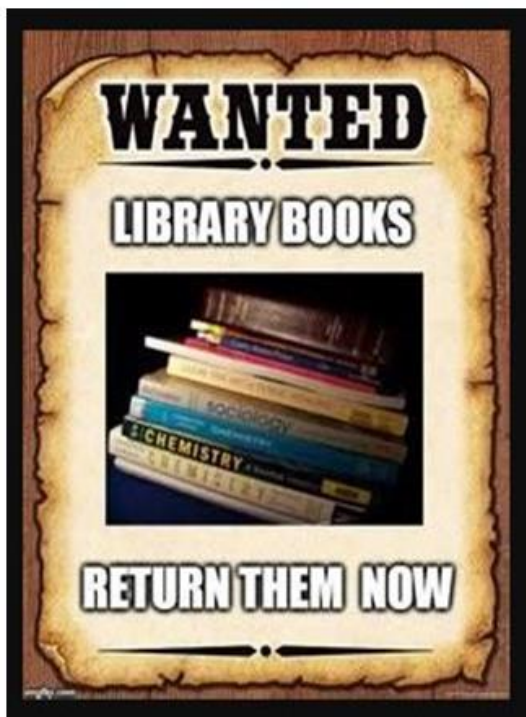
Next Monday the 15th, we will celebrate and farewell our Graduating Class of 2025. All families are invited to our whole school liturgy in the church beginning at 2:40 pm. It is a time to reflect on their years at primary school and give thanks for all they have contributed to our school community. We will also farewell our Year 6 leaving families.

On Tuesday the 16th, we will celebrate the 2025 school year with a whole school assembly at the church after recess. We plan to begin this at 11:50 am. Our Preps will perform their traditional Nativity play, Specialist programs will share some work from this year and we will farewell staff members who will be leaving us this year. Our 2026 school leaders will also be announced.



Have a great week!

Renée Cunningham



**All Library books need to be
returned this week.**

**Final due date is
Friday, December 12th**

**Please check all those bookshelves,
schoolbags, cupboards, under beds and all
the sneaky places books can disappear
within the house!**

Advent Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You for this special time of Advent, a season of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. Help us to slow down and remember that Christmas is about Your great love for us. Fill our hearts with hope, peace, joy, and love as we share kindness with others and celebrate the gift of Jesus.

Amen.

Calendar of Events

New items in bold

Term Four

December

Tuesday, December 9 th	Step Up Day 2026 Prep Orientation Session: 9.30-11.00am
Thursday, December 11 th	School Board & P&F Dinner 7pm Whole School Movie Day
Friday, December 12 th	All Library books returned
Monday, December 15 th	Year 6 Graduation
Tuesday, December 16 th	Assembly - Prep presenting End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

Beginning of the Year dates 2026

January

Wednesday, January 28 th	1-1 Testing* P-6
Thursday, January 29 th	Year 2-6 First Day of School for 2026 1-1 Testing* Prep & 1-1 Testing* Yr 1
Friday, January 30 th	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.*

Help Us Beautify the St Mary of the Angels' Basilica Garden

Our school community is truly blessed to have the St Mary of the Angels' Basilica as a central part of our spiritual and educational life. The Basilica grounds are in need of beautification. A lifelong parishioner has asked if any parish school families would be in a position to assist financially with this project.

The project is to rejuvenate and beautify the Myers Street and Yarra Street gardens. We are inviting families to contribute to this parish community-led effort to refresh this special space. Your support, no matter the size, will help ensure the garden is a welcoming and peaceful environment for students, parishioners, and visitors alike.

If you are able to assist, cash donations can be made at the St Mary's Parish Office. Please ensure contributions are clearly labelled for the *Basilica Garden Project*. Donations may also be sent via our school office with the same label and they will be collected by the parish.

Thank you for helping us care for a place that means so much to our school community. Your generosity is greatly appreciated

Annicc Lappin
Principal, St. Mary's Primary School

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

SUGAR
&
SLICE

ORDER NOW ON
FLEXISCHOOLS



Raising funds one slice at a time.
Easy, convenient & local



POTTERY STUDIO-EVENTS & GALLERY

School Holiday's Pottery & Craft Sessions

Tues 30th Dec 1-4pm Kids Pottery Class

Tues 6th Jan 1-4pm Kids Pottery Class

Additional classes will be listed on these dates and other dates if these book out. Adults may book a spot for themselves to join in and make something as well. You can either stay or drop off.

\$55 per person for 2 hours. Includes clay, colours, glazes and 2 kiln firings.

To book visit the website <https://hazytales.com/events/events-calendar/>

These are a few of the other things we do at Hazy Tales Studio:
Bespoke Pottery Parties for Adults & Kids. Custom events. Hen parties.
Adult evening 'Clay & Cocktails by Candlelight'. Porcelain products & jewellery for sale.

16 MAYALL WAY, DRYSDALE, BELLARINE

✉ sally@hazytales.com ☎ 0439 709 492
www.hazytales.com





ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG

COLLEGE TOURS

9.15am

Tuesday 17 March
Friday 20 March
Tuesday 24 March
Wednesday 25 March

1.45pm

Wednesday 18 March
Wednesday 25 March



BOOK HERE

St Joseph's College Geelong invite you to join our 2026 College Tours.

We are proud to continue offering an innovative education, and we welcome all senior primary school boys and their families to come and visit us.

Bookings essential sjc.vic.edu.au

Year 7 applications for 2027 are now open until Friday 8 May 2026

Academic Scholarships now open for Year 7 2027



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



Saint Ignatius
College Geelong

Saint Ignatius College welcomes your students to apply for a Year 7 2027 General Academic Scholarship via this link

<https://www.ignatius.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-information-nowopen#985>