

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term One, Week 3
February 9th, 2026
#3

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Parent Teacher Interview bookings are now open via PAM, and we encourage all families to secure their times early to ensure a smooth scheduling process. A detailed letter has been emailed to all families outlining the specific steps for booking through the portal. If you find yourself having any difficulty navigating the system or cannot find where to book, please do not hesitate to contact Narelle Crowe for assistance. As a reminder, if you have already booked or attended a PSG meeting for Term 1, a separate parent teacher interview is not required, so we kindly ask that you do not book an additional place to ensure availability for others.

In our effort to support all members of our community, we are currently in need of any second-hand uniforms your child may have outgrown. We are specifically looking for school jackets and school bags in good condition. If you have items to spare, please drop your donation off at the front office. These contributions are invaluable for families seeking high-quality pre-loved options.



For those students completing a Sacrament this year, please remember that it is compulsory to attend a Sign-Up Mass at St Mary's. There are several dates and times available, all of which are outlined in the dates section of this newsletter. Participating in these Masses is a vital part of your child's religious journey, serving as a public commitment to their faith and a way to connect deeply with the parish community. It is a beautiful opportunity for families to stand together in support of their child's spiritual growth.

The P&F Committee will be meeting this Wednesday, February 11th, at 7:00 pm in the staffroom. We are currently seeking help with several upcoming events, including our ever-popular Shrove Tuesday, special lunches, and the Easter raffle. Without the active support of our parent community, these exciting events simply cannot go ahead. We invite you to come along, share your ideas, and see how you can play a vital part in the vibrant life of our school.

At St. Margaret's, the safety and wellbeing of our children remain our primary focus. Last Friday, each family with students in Years 1–6 received a copy of our Parent Code of Conduct. While reviewing this document is a standard part of our annual enrolment process, the beginning of the school year serves as a vital time to reconnect with these values. Our Prep families received the document at the information session. Adhering to this code ensures that every student and family feels welcomed, respected, and safe while on our school grounds. We kindly ask that you take a few moments to read through it so we can continue to foster a positive and secure community for all.

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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.

Leadership and Management News

We are looking forward to an upcoming whole-school incursion for Years 1–6 with the renowned religious songwriter and performer Andrew Chinn. Andrew’s music is a staple in Catholic classrooms across the country, using catchy melodies and meaningful lyrics to help children explore their faith through song and dance. These opportunities are essential for students as they build confidence and find joy in creative expression.

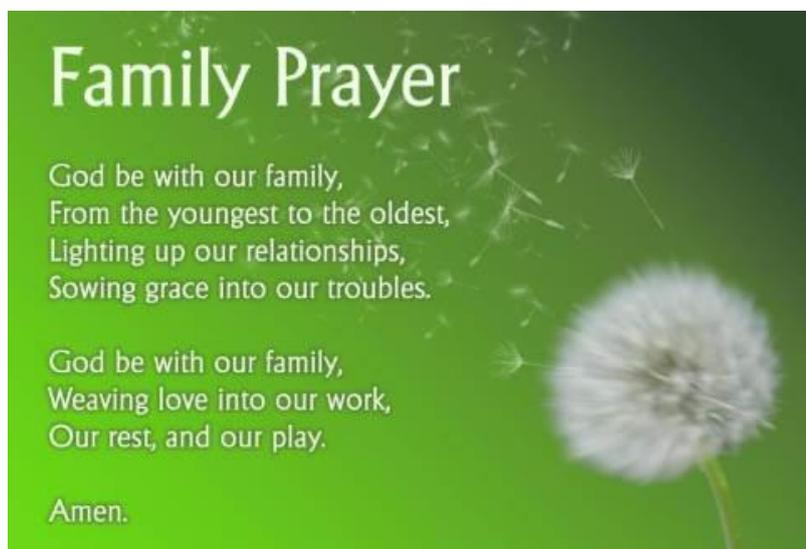
On Monday, February 23rd, our school will be hosting an important whole-school incursion centered on responsible pet ownership. This program is designed to teach students the essential skills required to interact safely and compassionately with animals. By understanding animal body language and the daily commitments involved in pet care, students develop a deeper sense of empathy and community safety. We believe these lessons are vital for fostering kindness and preventing avoidable accidents with pets. If you have any concerns please contact their classroom teacher directly.

In administrative news, fee statements will be sent out in the coming days. We ask that you ensure fees are paid strictly a term in advance or that you set up a direct debit. These contributions are essential for the continued operation and improvement of our facilities. I will be in contact shortly with families who are yet to make a financial contribution this year.

Finally, I would like to extend a sincere thank you for your continued support regarding our school uniform. Our students have been representing the school with immense pride, and they look truly wonderful in their full uniform. Maintaining a high standard of dress fosters a sense of belonging and discipline, and it is a credit to our families that the students are presenting themselves so well each day.

Enjoy your week!

Susan Perks



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

Term Two

April

Monday, April 20th
Tuesday, April 21st
Friday, April 24th
Tuesday, April 28th

May

Monday, May 4-7th
Wednesday, May 27th

June

Friday, June 5th
Monday, June 8th
Tuesday, June 16th
Friday, June 26th

July

Monday, July 13th
Tuesday, July 14th
Friday, July 24th

August

Tuesday, August 18th
Wednesday, August 19th
Monday, August 24th-28th
Sunday, August 30th

September

Monday, Sep 7th-11th
Friday, September 18th

October

Monday, October 5th
Tuesday, October 6th
Tuesday, October 27th

November

Monday, November 2nd
Tuesday, November 3rd
Monday, Nov 9th-11th
Thursday, November 12th
Tuesday, November 10th
Monday, November 16th
Thursday, November 19th

December

Friday, December 4th
Tuesday, December 10th
Monday, December 14th
Tuesday, December 15th

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

Term Two begins for students
ANZAC Liturgy for students
School Advisory Board 7pm

Smile Patrol Dental Van onsite
National Simultaneous Storytime

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

King's Birthday public holiday
School Advisory Board 7pm
Term 2 ends at 1.30pm

Term Three

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

Students begin Term Three
Grandparent's Day

School Advisory Board 7pm
Emmaus Meal 5pm First Eucharist preparation family night
Book Week "Symphony of Stories"
Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

Book Fair Week
Term 3 ends at 1.30pm

Term Four

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

Students begin Term Four
School Advisory Board 7pm

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning Melbourne Cup Public holiday

Year 5/6 Camp Wilkin
Year 5/6 student rest day
Reconciliation Family Preparation evening
St Margaret's Feast Day
Sacrament of Reconciliation 12:15pm

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

School Advisory Board 7pm
Year 6 Graduation
Assembly - Prep presenting
End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

Student Free Dates 2026

Tuesday, January 27th
Monday, April 20th
Friday, June 5th
Monday, July 13th
Monday, October 5th
Monday, November 2nd
Friday, December 4th

School Community News

Andrew Chinn Concert

This Wednesday, February 11th, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow", "An African Blessing" and "Rise Up!" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada.

The concert will take place in St Margaret's Church, at 2.25pm and we invite all our families and friends to come along and watch our Year 1-6 students perform with Andrew.

Our Prep children are not at school on this day, however we invite them to come along with their families. We look forward to seeing you there.

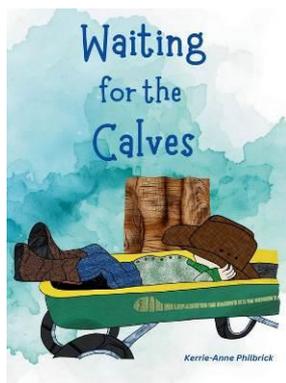
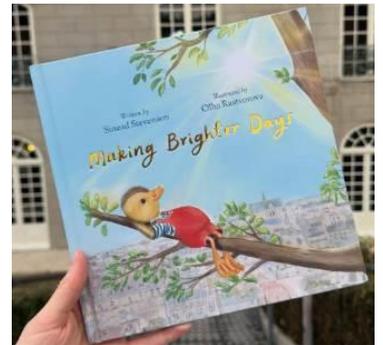


Congratulations to two previous staff members who have recently become authors!



Sinead Stevenson (nee Traynor) taught at St. Margaret's for several years before beginning her own family. Her book, 'Making Brighter Days' is a heartwarming story highlighting the importance of empathy, curiosity and self compassion in bringing light to darker days.

<https://projectshine.co/>



Kerrie-Anne Philbrick recently retired from her role as Learning Support Officer and Librarian and St. Margaret's. Her book, 'Waiting for the Calves' is a warm and joyful picture book about a little boy who loves life on his farm in springtime. Kerrie-Anne did the illustrations too!

<https://kerrieannphilbrick.com/>

Both titles now have pride of place in our library collection!

Student of the Week Awards

<i>Class</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Awards presented Friday, February 6th</i>
<i>Prep JC</i>		To all preps for their wonderful start to the year.
<i>Prep SB</i>		
<i>Yr 1 EK</i>	Harlow Weber	For demonstrating great listening skills and being organised. Keep up the great year!
<i>Yr 1 JB</i>	Archie Reiffel	For your brilliant ideas shared through floor discussions. Well done Archie.
<i>Yr 2 CR</i>	Bailey Cardigan	For always showing our classroom values and active listening. Well done Bailey!
<i>Yr 3 AC</i>	Caden Mirmilstein	For a fantastic start to the year! Great job Caden!
<i>Yr 3 HM</i>	Stevie Sahr	For your great start to the year in Year 3 - Well done.
<i>Yr 4 JC</i>	Olivia Dawson	For showing great effort and enthusiasm in your new school. Well done, Olivia.
<i>Yr 4 LC</i>	Arlo Bailey-Lane	For the fantastic way he has engaged with his new class, at his new school.
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Jaxon Chappell	For making an outstanding start to the school year. Keep up the amazing work Jax!
<i>Yr 5 KH</i>	Andrew Nabati	For making a great start to Year 5 - Well done.
<i>Yr 6 DW</i>	Ivy Heather	For exceeding the expectations within our classroom and always being kind and helpful.

**Did you hear about
the mathematician who's
afraid of negative numbers?**

**He will stop at
nothing to avoid them.**

**Let's eat kids.
Let's eat, kids.**

**Use a comma.
Save lives.**



ST MARGARET'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 2026 OPEN DAY

THU FEB 26 9:30AM & 12PM

THU MAR 12 9:30AM & 12PM

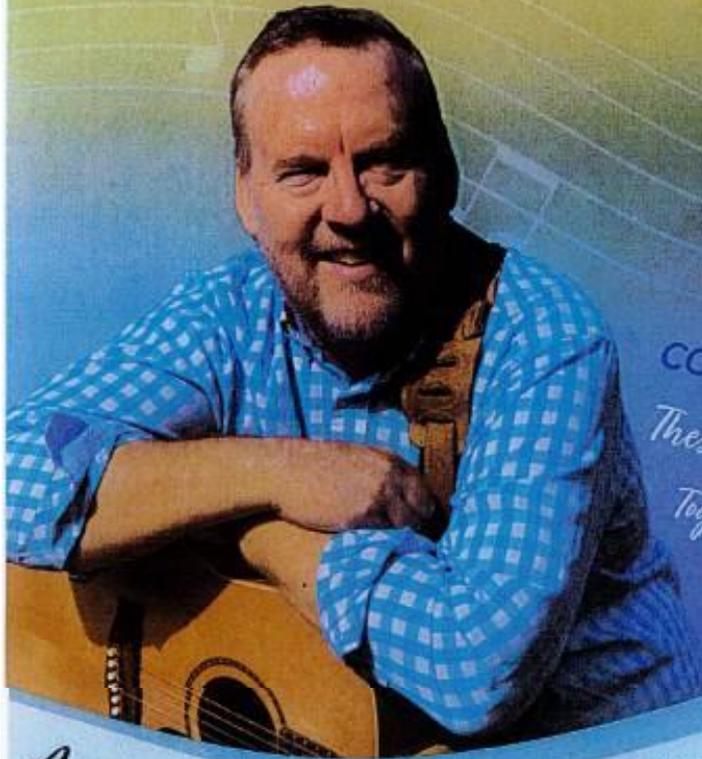


contact us to book a private/after-hours tour:
principal@smgeelongeast.com.au



A CONCERT WITH

ANDREW CHINN



COMPOSER OF...

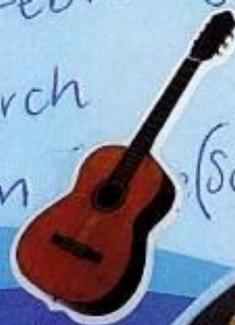
*These Hands · Rainbow · May God Be In My Heart
Together As One · In The Beginning · An African Blessing
Ubuntu · Rise Up! · We Are God's Hands · Pilgrims of Hope*

Appearing at... St Margaret's Primary School

When: Wednesday 11th February 2026

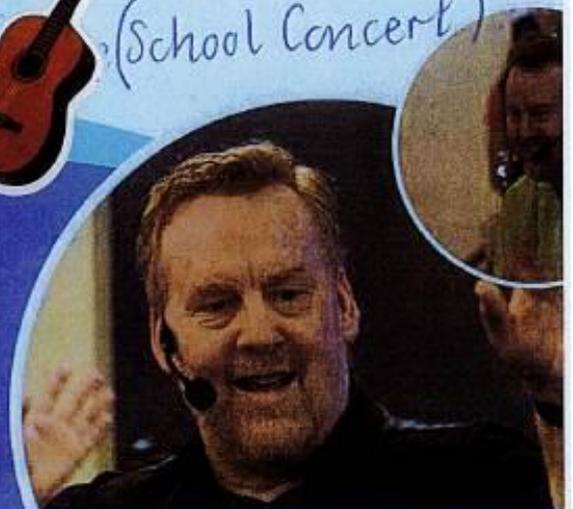
Where: St Margaret's Church

Time: 2.25pm - 3.15pm (School Concert)



www.butterflyhouse.online

- ✓ Online resource for Catholic Primary school teachers!
- ✓ Now used in more than 1200 schools



More than 5000 concerts in schools across Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada



Girls, IMAGINE THE FUN

FREE ALL GIRLS PROGRAM

Come have a Blast!

Forge new friendships and have some fun at Woolworths Cricket Blast!

GROWING CRICKET FOR GIRLS COLOUR BLAST PROGRAM- CRICKET VICTORIA AND GEELONG CRICKET ASSOCIATION

VENUE: SOUTH BARWON RESERVE- OVAL 1

DATES: MON 23RD FEB, 2ND & 16TH, 23RD MARCH (9 MAR PUBLIC HOL)

TIME: 4.00PM-5.00PM

MAKE NEW FRIENDS, GET CREATIVE, IMPROVE YOUR CRICKET, AND FINISH WITH THE MOST COLOURFUL CELEBRATION EVER!

REGISTRATION IS FREE, SO TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

SIGN UP TODAY!

[Q Play Cricket](#)

CONNECT & FLOW YOGA

FOR PARENT & CHILD

AT EBB AND FLOW WELLNESS STUDIO, NEWTOWN

WITH MARANDA OF *HART IN HARMONY*

TUES 5:10-5:50 **8-12YRS**

THURS 4.15-4.55 **5-8YRS** THURS 5.10-5.50 **12-16YRS**

7-week program from Tues Feb 17 & Thurs Feb 19



A nurturing and uplifting space for parent and child to practice yoga, mindfulness, conscious breathing and meditation - supporting wellbeing, emotional regulation, connection and self-empowerment - together!

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Contact Maranda

maranda@hartinharmony.com.au

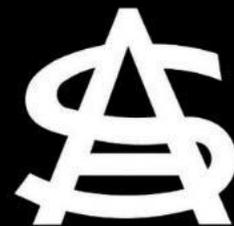
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JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS

U10, U12, U14, U16,
U17 GIRLS, U18

contact Jade Morris on 0402 614 894 or
email junior.football@stalbandsfc.com

WE WANT YOU!





**CLONARD
COLLEGE**
GEE LONG

Come and See

OPEN DAYS 2026

- **Friday 13 March**
- **Wednesday 18 March**
- **Friday 20 March**

clonard.vic.edu.au





GEELONG
HIGH SCHOOL

Join us to experience all that **Geelong High School** has to offer our prospective Year 7 students.

Wednesday 11th March 2026

INFORMATION EVENING

Session 1 - 4:30pm

Session 2 - 5:30pm

Session 3 - 6:30pm

Venue: C. A. Love Hall

*Sessions will be followed
by tours of the school.*

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• *Prepares us for Life* •