

# NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's  
Primary School

Term One, Week 5  
February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026  
#5

## *From Susan's Desk*

## *Leadership and Management News*

Dear Families,

Last week marked the significant beginning of the Lenten season within our school community, starting with our Shrove Tuesday celebrations. This traditional day of feasting before the Lenten fast is a time for us to reflect on the coming weeks of preparation and renewal. Unfortunately, due to the extreme hot weather, our highly anticipated pancake races had to be cancelled for the safety of our students. Despite the heat, the spirit of the day remained high as students participated in various engaging classroom activities. We are incredibly grateful to our wonderful P&F volunteers who worked tirelessly in the heat to ensure that delicious pancakes were delivered to every room. The dedication shown by the parents who stayed to cook and prepare in such conditions was truly remarkable, and we cannot thank them enough for their selfless contribution to our school spirit.

Following the festivities of Tuesday, we observed Ash Wednesday with a sense of reverence and prayer. Our Year 1 and 2 students participated in a beautiful liturgy on campus, while our Year 3 through 6 students attended Mass at St Mary's. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Mrs. Barbour for her preparation of these services. Ash Wednesday holds deep significance for our Catholic faith community as we receive ashes as a visible sign of our commitment to penance and spiritual growth. To continue this journey, our Religious Education student leaders will be leading the school in a short liturgy each Friday during Lent. These moments of prayer provide a vital opportunity for us all to pause and reflect as we prepare for the joy of Easter.

Prospective families are already looking toward the future, and this Thursday marks our first Open Day for those considering enrollment for 2027. Interest in our school remains very high, with tour slots filling quickly and a significant number of personal private tours already taking place. If you have friends or family members wishing to join our community in 2027, please encourage them to complete their enrollment forms as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. It is wonderful to see such strong interest in the learning environment we have built here together, and we look forward to welcoming new faces to our campus throughout the week.

Our senior students in Year 5 and 6 are looking forward to heading to Eastern Beach this Wednesday for their dedicated wellbeing excursion day. This outing is an important reminder to our students and families about the necessity of focusing on all aspects of our wellbeing, including physical activity, social connection, and mental health. Taking time away from the traditional classroom setting to appreciate our local environment helps foster resilience and positive relationships among peers. On the topic of student progress and partnership, please remember to book your parent-teacher interviews via PAM if you have not already done so. These conversations are essential for aligning our goals for your child's success. We wish everyone a productive and enjoyable week ahead.

Enjoy your 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 One

#### February

Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>  
  
Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

PSGs  
Responsible Pet Ownership P-6 Incursion - **CANCELLED**  
Year 5/6 Wellbeing Day Excursion  
Prep Rest / Testing Day  
Open Day: 9.30am and 12pm  
Assembly at 9:10am - Year 4 hosting  
Family Sacrament Enrolment Mass 6pm

#### March

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>  
  
Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Family Sacrament Enrolment Mass 7.30am, 9.30am and 11am  
Parent Teacher Interviews  
ParaOlympian visiting Yrs 3-6 at school  
Parent Teacher Interviews  
Prep Rest / Testing Day  
**Labour Day Public Holiday**  
Confirmation Retreat Preparation Day (*please note change of date due to availability of the church space*)

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>  
March 11th-March 20<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>  
**Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

School Advisory Board 7pm  
Open Day: 9.30am and 12pm  
NAPLAN Test Window  
School Photos  
**MCG excursion - House Captains and Sustainability Leaders**  
P&F Meeting 7pm  
Student Leadership Conference - School & Vice Captains  
Geelong Student Pilgrimage Queenscliff - RE Leaders  
Harmony Day - School uniform with a touch of orange  
Assembly at 9:10am - Year 3 hosting  
P&F Special hot dog lunch  
Catholic Education Week Mass, St Patrick's Melbourne  
(RE leaders & school captains)  
Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm  
School Cross Country (running track next to school) 10am start  
Whole School Athletics - Landy Field

#### April

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**P&F hot cross bun morning tea** (*please note change of date*)  
Easter Liturgy  
Hot Cross Bun Drive Pick up  
End Term 1 - 1.30pm dismissal

**Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Good Friday**

## St Margaret's Primary School



83 St Albans Road  
East Geelong 3219

Ph 5229 7453



Website: [www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Susan Perks [sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Office Managers: Anne Miller [amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Georgia Kavenagh [gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au)

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)

## Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

### Term Two

#### April

**Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

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

Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

#### May

Monday, May 4-7<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

#### June

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

**Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**

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

Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

#### July

**Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>

#### August

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

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

Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>

#### September

Monday, Sep 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

#### October

**Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

#### November

**Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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

Monday, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

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

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

Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

#### December

**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

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

**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

End Term 2 - 1.30pm dismissal

### Term Three

**Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning**

Students begin Term Three

Grandparent's Day

School Advisory Board at 7pm

Emmaus Meal at 5pm - First Eucharist preparation family night

Book Week "Symphony of Stories"

Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

Book Fair Week

End Term 3 - 1.30pm dismissal

### 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 - 5pm

St Margaret's Feast Day

Sacrament of Reconciliation 12.15pm *(please note change of date)*

**Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning**

School Advisory Board 7pm

Year 6 Graduation

Assembly - Prep presenting

End Term 4 - 1.30pm dismissal

#### Student Free Dates 2026

Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>

Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>

Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>

Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

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

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

together in faith

## Our 2026 Year 6 Leaders

2026 School  
Captains



Isheanesu  
Tobayiwa



Tobias Broad

2026 Vice  
Captains



Jack O'Brien



Finley  
Vaughan

2026 Blue  
House  
Captains  
Mercy



Loyola  
Jackson



Lucas Spark

2026 Gold  
House  
Captains  
Iona



Archer  
McIntosh



Lani  
Richardson



Harry Harvey

2026 Green  
House Captains  
Mulchahy



Quinnie  
Westwood



Tamiko Kai

2026 Red  
House Captains  
Rafters



Piper  
Stephenson



Lucinda  
Marriott

2026  
Sustainability  
Leaders



Ivy Heather



Bella Cioch



Holly Maloney



Sonny Kirwan

2026 ICT  
Leaders



Eden Tran



Jobe Greenwood



James Jimenez

2026 Social  
Justice Leaders



Aryan Prasad



Shae Rufus



Camilla Barton



Lilly Bell



Ivy Simonsen

## Student of the Week Awards

Class	Student	Awards presented Friday, February 20 <sup>th</sup>
Prep JC	Jagger Munn	For being a kind, respectful and safe member of our class.
Prep JC	Kyah Batterbury	For being an excellent role model in the classroom and letting her 'light' shine.
Prep SB	Phoenix Withington	For his excellent start to school and for always showing kindness and respect to everyone.
Prep SB	Heidi Pritchard	For her wonderful start to school and giving everything a go! Well done Heidi!
Yr 1 EK	Levi Poole	For being a great role model in our class and setting good examples for others.
Yr 1 EK	Haven Petrovski	For trying your best at all times, and participating in class discussions. Keep it up!
Yr 1 JB	Fionn Kelly	For always striving to put your best foot forward in the classroom. Well done Fionn!
Yr 1 JB	Millie Flood	For showing kindness towards everyone in the classroom environment. Well done Millie!
Yr 2 CR	Ari Kelly	For being a supportive classmate!
Yr 2 CR	Indy McIntosh	For consistently showing school values!
Yr 3 AC	Darcy Menheere	For showing great creativity in her writing piece! Great work Darcy!
Yr 3 AC	Lachlan Noonan	For showing resilience and a positive attitude to his learning. Well done Lachie!
Yr 3 HM	Lina Hirwa Rugira	For always following St Margaret's School Values and being an Upstander.
Yr 3 HM	Kenley Nguyen	For always giving 100% effort in all learning tasks, well done.
Yr 4 JC	Kiwi De Silva	For consistently showing kindness and including others in games and learning. Well Done Kiwi!!!
Yr 4 JC	Zainab Kamran	For consistently meeting expectations through hard work. Well Done Zainab!!!
Yr 4 LC	Ruby Withington	For her enthusiasm for learning and for striving to master new knowledge and skills.
Yr 4 LC	Eli Allwright	For awesome persistence and willingness to complete learning tasks.
Yr 5 FM	Kenny Golding	Your outstanding start to Year 5 and your excellent contributions to our class discussions. Great work!
Yr 5 FM	Sophie Butcher	For your wonderful start to Year 5 and your excellent effort each day with all your learning. Great work!
Yr 5 KH	Giuliano Bucedi	For making a great start to the year with a positive attitude.
Yr 5 KH	Summer Ryan	For a great start to year 5 and for working productively in class.
Principal's Award	Adam Alex	For being kind and including others. Always being ready to learn with a positive attitude.



### Seeking Old Playing Cards

If families have unused decks of cards at home, we can use them! Our mental maths strategy tasks use Ace to 10 cards for hands-on activities to practise number skills. Please send old decks (complete or partial) to school and invite extended family (grandparents, aunts, uncles etc) to see if they have any old ones they'd be happy to declutter as well.



*Sporting News*



***Changes: to this year's Athletics Day***

- High Jump event will be completed at School prior to athletics day.
- No shade area due to Landy Field construction. Therefore we will be using the river side end.
- Students will sit in Year Levels not in Houses.
- Relay races only for 3-6s (1 race)

*together in faith*

**Sporting News**

# ST. MARGARET'S **CROSS COUNTRY**

FOR GRADES 3 - 6

**FRIDAY 27th MARCH**

★ 10AM - AT THE RUNNING TRACK NEXT TO THE SCHOOL ★



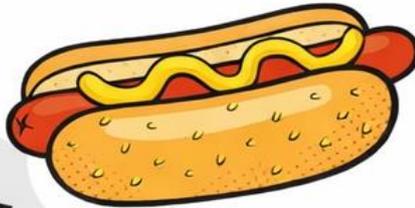
★ 9 & 10 YEAR OLDS RUN 2KM ★

★ 11, 12 & 13 YEAR OLDS RUN 3KM ★

**JOIN THE FUN & GIVE IT YOUR BEST!**

**SPECIAL LUNCH  
HOT DOG  
DAY!**

**FRIDAY  
20TH MARCH**



**Our Special  
lunch for term 1  
Orders via flexi app**



# 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](mailto:principal@smgeelongeast.com.au)