

# NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's  
Primary School

Term Two, Week 1  
April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
#10

## *From Susan's Desk*

Dear Families,

Welcome back to all our families! We hope you had a restful and rejuvenating Easter break and enjoyed some quality time with loved ones. As the autumn chill begins to set in, we want to ensure all students stay warm and comfortable. Students are welcome to wear either the full summer or full winter uniform depending on their comfort, but please remember that we do not allow a "mix and match" of the two. For example, tights should not be worn with the summer dress as they are strictly part of the designated winter uniform. To help with the temperature drop, school beanies are available at the front office for \$20, and we also have school drink bottles available for \$10.

Our building team was very busy over the holidays, and we are thrilled with the progress. Fresh carpet has been installed in the downstairs hallway, Year 1 rooms, Prep SB, and Year 2 classrooms, and the difference is remarkable. We have also installed new storage cupboards, refreshed the staffroom benchtops, and completed the new staff toilets. Construction has now shifted to the foyer and main office area. For the safety of our visitors and to comply with OH&S regulations, the front doors are now closed. The front office staff have moved to the Intervention Room, opposite the Principal's office. To find us, enter through the front gate, turn right past the Wellbeing Hub, and follow the walkway along the Year 6 windows. Staff will be stationed at the gate this Tuesday to help direct families, and First Aid will also be operating out of this temporary space. Thank you for your flexibility as we refresh our school environment.

Regarding enrollments, we have experienced overwhelming demand for Prep places for 2027 and currently have an extensive waiting list. If you are a current family with a child starting in 2027, please return your acceptance letters immediately. Due to the high demand, we need to finalise these numbers as soon as possible, and we appreciate your patience as we work through the offering process.



This Friday, our school community will gather for an ANZAC Day Liturgy. This is a significant moment where we reflect on the courage and sacrifice of those who served in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. For our students, learning about the ANZAC spirit and the qualities like mateship, endurance, and sacrifice is a vital part of understanding our history and the importance of peace. We are also incredibly proud that members of our School Choir have been invited to represent us and sing at the Norlane

Service. We also have some of our student leaders attending the 94th Annual School's ANZAC service at the Shrine of Remembrance on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>. It is a great honour to be involved in community events, and we are deeply grateful to the families supporting these students in attending.

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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

Finally, Mother's Day is fast approaching. We invite all mums and special friends to join us for our "Muffins with Mum" morning, followed by the draw of our Mother's Day raffle which features some incredible prizes. In addition, we will be holding our popular Mother's Day stall where we ask students to bring \$5 to purchase a special gift for the mother figure in their life. More specific details are included further down in this newsletter.

Enjoy the first week back!

*Susan Perks*



## Congratulations Mithra!

Mithra participated in a Karate tournament last weekend and won the gold medal in the up to 7-year-old 8th-7th Kyu division at the Region 26 12 and under Round Robin Tournament.

## Aussie of the Month

### Zainab Kamran

Zainab is a true leader in Grade 4 and embodying the spirit of our school. By always giving her classmates a fair go and having the courage to try new things,

Zainab shows us all how to be a "good sport" in every situation. Her natural sense of mateship and compassion for those in need makes our classroom a kinder place, while their deep respect for others and our environment sets a wonderful example for her peers.

## Congratulations Zainab!



## St Margaret's Primary School



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## 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>

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

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

Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

#### May

Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

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

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

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

Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

#### June

Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>

Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>

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

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

Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>

Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>

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

Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

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

#### July

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

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

Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>

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

#### August

Sunday, August, 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

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

Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>

#### September

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

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

**Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning**

Term Two begins for students

ANZAC Liturgy for students

Choir singing at ANZAC Service – Norlane, 10am

School Advisory Board 7pm

Parents & Friends 7pm

Year 1 Assembly

Smile Patrol Dental Van onsite

Melbourne Shrine Schools ANZAC Service (selected students)

Muffins with Mum and P&F Mother's Day Stall

Year 2 Assembly

PSGs Years 3, 5 & 6

PSGs – Prep, Year 1 & Year 2

National Simultaneous Storytime

Year 4 Incurion – Reconciliation

Prep Assembly

PSGs Year 4

Year 3 Incursion – Reconciliation

Prep Excursion to Werribee Zoo

**Student Free Day – Staff Professional Learning**

**King's Birthday public holiday**

Division Soccer – Myers Reserve (selected students)

Year 6 Assembly

Division Tee-Ball – Stead Park (selected students)

School Advisory Board 7pm

Special Lunch P&F – Pizza

Year 5 Assembly

End Term 2 – 1.30pm dismissal

### Term Three

**Student Free Day – Staff Professional Learning**

Students begin Term Three

Emmaus Meal at 5pm – First Eucharist preparation family night

*(please note change of date due to the change of Eucharist date)*

Grandparent's Day

Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

*(please note change of date due to Basilica availability)*

School Advisory Board 7pm

Book Week "Symphony of Stories"

Book Week dress up day with morning parade

Book Fair Week

End Term 3 – 1.30pm dismissal

**Calendar of Events**

*(new items in bold)*

**Term Four**

**October**

**Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

**Student Free Day – Staff Professional Learning**  
Students begin Term Four  
School Advisory Board 7pm

**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 19<sup>th</sup>

**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

**December**

**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Tuesday, December 8<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**  
School Advisory Board 7pm  
Whole School Christmas Concert  
Year 6 Graduation  
Assembly – Prep presenting  
End Term 4 – 1.30pm dismissal



## **School Community News**

### ***The Orange Door***

Our school cares about the safety and wellbeing of our students and their families. Sometimes things at home or in a relationship are not OK or families can be worried about the wellbeing of their children or young people. The Orange Door can help you to get the support you need, quickly and easily. It's free and you don't need a referral.

The Orange Door can help families. They provide support for concerns with parenting, relationships, and family violence. The Orange Door is a free intake and assessment service for:

- families requiring support for their child or young person's wellbeing or development
- families needing parenting support
- young, isolated, or unsupported families
- individuals and families experiencing family violence
- adults using family violence
- young people using violence in the home.

If you contact The Orange Door, they can help by:

- working with you to identify the help and support you need
- supporting you with the wellbeing and development of your child or young person
- helping you make a safety plan if someone is making you feel unsafe
- connecting you to services that can help like counselling, accommodation, mental health and drug and alcohol services, parenting support groups, services for children, financial help, or legal assistance
- supporting you to access funding for basic living expenses and some other costs
- supporting you to change abusive or controlling behaviour.

Each Orange Door location across Victoria has their own phone number and email. Students and their families can also visit their local Orange Door in person for support, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm for support. No appointment is needed.

#### ***How schools connect with The Orange Door***

Our school might talk to a student and/or their family about The Orange Door. We might encourage them to contact their local Orange Door to get advice and help if needed. Ideally, a student and/or their family will get in touch with The Orange Door to seek advice and support. Sometimes, schools might make a referral to The Orange Door without the student or their family's knowledge or consent. Schools will do this if:

- informing a student and/or family increases the risk to their safety or wellbeing
- not linking a student to support increases the risk of their safety and wellbeing.

### ***Cross Country Champs***



## Student of the Week Awards

<i>Class</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Awards presented Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></i>
<i>Prep JC</i>	Owen McCallum	For his wonderful persistence during Athletics Day! Well Done Owen.
<i>Prep JC</i>	Murphy Weber	For her fantastic writing and using capital letters, spaces and a full stop. Amazing work Murphy!
<i>Prep SB</i>	Lenny Vaughan	For his excellent efforts in Writing, Well done Lenny!
<i>Prep SB</i>	Aiyla Nabati	For her wonderful efforts in reading, Well done Aiyla!
<i>Yr 1 EK</i>	Adam Alex	For showing excellent sportsmanship during our school Athletics Day
<i>Yr 1 EK</i>	Pippi Dooris	For demonstrating kindness to all. Well done Pippi
<i>Yr 1 JB</i>	Arthur Brauer	For implementing a growth mindset towards all areas of your schooling. Well done Arthur!
<i>Yr 1 JB</i>	Edie Harvey	For showing kindness towards everyone in the classroom environment. Well done Edie!
<i>Yr 2 CR</i>	Indy McIntosh	For demonstrating a positive attitude on Athletics Day.
<i>Yr 2 CR</i>	Lua Augbert	For showing kindness to others.
<i>Yr 3 AC</i>	Piper Drever	For being a kind and supportive friend to others!
<i>Yr 3 AC</i>	Ruari Dooris	For his persistence when working through his handwriting!
<i>Yr 3 HM</i>	Louis Gray	For your dedication to your learning and giving everything a go.
<i>Yr 3 HM</i>	Quinn O'Leary	For always giving everything a go and making great effort in reading. 1
<i>Yr 4 JC</i>	Georgia McGenniskien	For always giving 100% even when learning can be challenging. Well Done Georgia!!
<i>Yr 4 JC</i>	Levi Deocampo	For asking curious questions that deepen our learning. Well done Levi!!
<i>Yr 4 LC</i>	Georgia Harpur	For expanding her use of helpful strategies to solve maths fluency problems.
<i>Yr 4 LC</i>	Xavier Hanan	For achieving his maths goal and for including accurate facts in his writing.
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Friday Foley	For your wonderful start to Year 5, working hard and being an outstanding RE leader. Well done!
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Mac Salkeld	For outstanding inclusion of other students during outside play. Keep up the amazing kindness!
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Aiden Coumans	For making a positive start to the school year and working hard in your role as an RE leader.
<i>Yr 5 KH</i>	Eli Knight	For supporting students and coaching them in creating Google slides. Well done Eli!
<i>Yr 5 KH</i>	Sarah Smith	For being a great role model to her peers, always following school expectations and working hard in class. Well done Sarah!
<i>Yr 6 DW</i>	Lulu Marriott	For all of the excellent academic achievements she is making in class.
<i>Yr 6 DW</i>	Lucas Spark	For being an amazing child. He works hard, supports others and makes the classroom a better place.
<i>Principal's Award</i>	Claudia Walker Michael Walker	For building a business and creating lots of 'duck' fun around the school and for raising \$113 for Caritas.



## Child Safe Standard 3

**'Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.'**

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission-driven and legal responsibility to uphold and actively promote the wellbeing and safety of every student entrusted in our care. Our commitment to the protection of students is enabled in nurturing, respectful and safe communities where the uniqueness and sacred dignity of every young person are celebrated, and they can flourish in their learning and development.

This newsletter series provides an overview of what the Child Safe Standards are, how they are designed to help keep children and young people safe and what school governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) are doing to prioritise and achieve this.

### Overview of Child Safe Standard 3:

To be aligned, schools must support the following:

- Children are informed about all their rights, including safety, information and participation
- The importance of friendship is recognized and support from peers is encouraged
- Where relevant to setting or context, young people are offered access to sexual abuse prevention programs in an age-appropriate way
- Staff are attuned to signs of harm and facilitate child friendly ways for children to express their views, participate in decision making and raise their concerns
- Organisations have strategies to develop a culture that facilitates participation and are responsive to input from children and young people.

### The Child Safe Standards

The Child Safe Standards are a set of guidelines that help organisations create safe environments for children and young people.

They make sure that children are protected from harm, listened to, and respected. These standards require organisations to have strong leadership, clear policies, and a culture that puts children first.

As a parent or carer, you can expect organisations to involve families, empower children, train staff properly, and respond to concerns quickly and respectfully.

This standard focuses on empowering children and young people by ensuring they are informed, respected, and actively involved in decisions that affect them. This participation helps build a school culture that is safe for them and values their voice.

### What does this look like in a school environment?

- **Creating Opportunities for Student Voice:** We create formal structures such as student councils and leadership programs, but we also include fewer formal opportunities so all students, especially the most vulnerable, can have their voice heard.
- **Acting on Student Feedback:** We listen deeply to what students are telling us and we respond to concerns, suggestions and ideas. This includes making sure students are aware when we have acted on their feedback.
- **Building Staff Capacity:** Our staff receive professional learning, so they understand the importance and benefits of listening to and responding to, student voice. This also includes training for staff regarding how to incorporate student voice, agency and empowerment in their daily interactions and decision making.

### How Parents, Carers and Guardians can get involved!

- **Listen and talk often:** Encourage your child to share their thoughts and feelings. Let them know it's always ok to speak up.
- **Talk about rights and safety:** Help your child understand that everyone deserves to feel safe and respected.
- **Be a role model:** Show kindness, respect, and inclusion in everyday life, children learn from what they see.
- **Stay connected with the school:** Take part in conversations or surveys about student wellbeing and safety.
- **Support student voice:** Encourage your child to get involved in school activities where their ideas can make a difference.

### Want to know more?

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how we're supporting child safety, please get in touch.

More information on the Child Safe Standards can be found via the [Commission for Children and Young People \(CCYP\) website](#).



Working together for Child Safety



# STARTING FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 5PM TIL 6PM



## GOOD CLEAN FUN

Contact darren - 0468 947 950 for further information

### THOMSON FNC

Godfrey St  
Thomson



Register via QR code



PLAY