

NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Two, Week 7
June 1st, 2026
#16

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Our school community had a wonderful time participating in National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday, May 27th. This annual event is a highlight on our calendar, bringing together young readers from all across the country to read the exact same book at the exact same time. This year, our students thoroughly enjoyed diving into 'Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller' by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd, illustrated by Jake A. Minton., which sparked great imagination, laughter, and discussion across the classrooms. Engaging in events like this highlights the vital importance of reading in a child's development, as it fosters literacy skills, builds empathy, and creates a lifelong love for books. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to connect with a broader community of readers and share in the pure joy of storytelling.

Our sporting spirit was on full display recently as our Year 5 and Year 6 students participated in the district football and netball lightning premierships. They represented our school with immense pride, outstanding sportsmanship, and great determination throughout the day. We are thrilled to report that our teams enjoyed some fantastic winning success on the field and court, showing great teamwork and grit. Congratulations to all the students involved for making our school community so proud.

In addition to our sporting achievements, our school leaders had the wonderful privilege of meeting Bishop Ashe last Friday. The students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to ask insightful questions and get to know the Bishop on a personal level. Gatherings like this are incredibly important for our school, as they strengthen our Catholic faith identity and reinforce the deep, meaningful connections between our parish and the school community. It was a beautiful reminder of the wider spiritual family that supports and guides our students in their faith journeys.

We also have some very exciting capital works news to share, as the construction of our new internal courtyard space has finally been completed. This beautiful, revitalized area will officially open to our students this coming Monday. While we are keeping the final look a surprise for just a little longer, we will reveal full photos and share more details about this amazing new space in our next newsletter once the children have had a chance to experience it firsthand.

Our cookie dough drive is officially kicking off this week, and we extend a massive thank you to our hard-working Parents and Friends committee for organising it. Students have the chance to win some truly incredible prizes based on how much they sell, but more importantly, this serves as a major fundraiser for the year. All proceeds will go directly toward building up our P&F funds to purchase a brand-new shade structure for our playground, which will benefit every child at our school. To get involved and help us reach our goal, students can sell tubs to family, friends, neighbors, or even ask parents to take the order forms to their workplaces. Every single tub sold brings us one step closer to a cooler, more sun-smart play area, so please get involved and help us out.

...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

As always, child safety remains the absolute number-one priority for us. As part of our ongoing commitment to this, we have recently installed a live-stream camera into our school wellbeing hub. At times, a staff member may take a student into this space for support, and to ensure total transparency and child safety, this camera will provide a direct live stream to the school leadership team. Please be assured that absolutely no recording of this hub will take place. The system is strictly in place to provide an extra set of eyes and a layer of protection for both students and staff in this space. If your child uses the wellbeing hub and you wish to discuss these new measures further, please feel free to speak to Sonja Ginn or myself.

This update leads directly into our spotlight on Child Safe Standard 4, which focuses on families and communities being informed and involved in promoting child safety. For our school, this means we are dedicated to maintaining an open, transparent culture where policies are clearly communicated, and parents are active partners in keeping our children safe. We want every family to feel empowered to voice questions, understand our safety protocols, and collaborate with us in maintaining a secure environment. We thank you for your continued partnership in this vital area.

Looking ahead, please take note of some important calendar dates for the upcoming fortnight. Friday, June 5th is a scheduled student-free day, which will be immediately followed by the Queen's Birthday public holiday on Monday, June 8th. Because of this extended break, there will be no school newsletter published next week. We hope all of our families take this opportunity to enjoy the long weekend, relaxing and resting up so everyone is recharged for the second half of what is shaping up to be a very busy and productive term.

Enjoy your week!

Susan Perks

These superstars represented St Margaret's at Lightning Prem footy yesterday. Not only did they have some great wins they also showed incredible sportsmanship and kindness to a struggling team. This makes us so proud and what our school values! Well done!!



Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term Two

June

Monday, June 1 st	PSGs Year 4
Tuesday, June 2 nd	Year 3 Incursion - Reconciliation
Thursday, June 4 th	Prep Excursion to Werribee Zoo
Friday, June 5th	Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning
Monday, June 8th	King's Birthday public holiday
Wednesday, June 10 th	Parents & Friends 7pm - staffroom
	Division Soccer - Myers Reserve (selected students)
Thursday, June 11th	Yr 1 Excursion to Werribee Zoo
Friday, June 12 th	Year 6 Assembly
Tuesday, June 16 th	Division Tee-Ball - Stead Park (selected students)
	School Advisory Board 7pm
Wednesday, June 17th	Prep Incursion: Kids Help Line Session - Managing Emotions
Friday, June 19 th	P&F Special Lunch - Pizza
Friday, June 26 th	Year 5 Assembly
	End Term 2 - 1.30pm dismissal

Term Three

July

Monday, July 13th	Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning
Tuesday, July 14 th	Students begin Term Three
Wednesday, July 15th	Closing date for Cookie Dough orders
	Emmaus Meal at 5pm - First Eucharist preparation family night
	Grandparent's Day
Friday, July 24 th	

August

Sunday, August, 2 nd	Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm
Friday, August 7 th	District Athletics - Landy Field (selected students)
Friday, August 14th	Prep Incursion: Build-a-Bear
Tuesday, August 18 th	School Advisory Board 7pm
Monday, August 24 th -28 th	Book Week "Symphony of Stories"
Tuesday, August 25 th	Book Week dress up day with morning parade

September

Tuesday, September 1 st	Division Athletics (selected students)
Monday, Sep 7 th -11 th	Book Fair Week
Friday, September 18 th	End Term 3 - 1.30pm dismissal

St Margaret's Primary School



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East Geelong 3219

Ph 5229 7453



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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

(new items in bold)

Term Four

October

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

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

November

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

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 4th
Tuesday, December 8th
Tuesday, December 10th
Monday, December 14th
Tuesday, December 15th

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

Term 3: Week 5	12:00 1:00 pm (3/4s) Two Sessions
Term 3: Week 7	10:20 - 11:20 am (1/2s) Two Sessions
Term 3: Week 10	12:30 - 1:00 pm (5/6s) One Session
Term 3: Week 10	12:00 - 12:30 pm (Preps) One Session



School Community News

Lightning Premiership



Division Cross Country



Well done to all students, Goodluck to Kartia and Niah who will compete at Regionals

School Community News



Preps - 2s participated in the 2026 National Simultaneous Storytime, listening to the story "Luna Roo"



Student of the Week Awards

<i>Class</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Awards presented Friday, May 29th</i>
<i>Prep JC</i>	Estee Deocampo	For her amazing reading at school, consistently reading at home and sounding out tricky words. Well Done Estee!
<i>Prep SB</i>	Hudson Little	For his resilience when overcoming challenges. Proud of you Hudson!
<i>Prep SB</i>	Sloane Bartlett	For her excellent efforts in writing. Well done Sloane!
<i>Yr 1 EK</i>	Oliver Bell	For his attention to detail in handwriting! Keep up the beautiful writing Oliver.
<i>Yr 1 EK</i>	Maya Cholinski	For her excellent handwriting formation. Well done Maya!
<i>Yr 1 JB</i>	Ford Costello	For working on your reading and always persisting. Great job Ford!
<i>Yr 1 JB</i>	Hutch Miller	For putting your hand up to share your thinking through classroom discussions. Well done Hutch!
<i>Yr 2 CR</i>	Michael Walker	For an improved and fantastic classroom presence. Brilliant term Michael!!
<i>Yr 2 CR</i>	Solomon Westwood	For an improved attitude to learning! Keep up the great work Solomon!
<i>Yr 3 AC</i>	Zita Nolan	For your continued kindness and leadership within our classroom!
<i>Yr 3 AC</i>	Isla Ventieri	For your determination in all of your learning tasks!
<i>Yr 3 HM</i>	Alessia Bucedi	For always giving a helping hand to those in need
<i>Yr 3 HM</i>	Harriet Jeffers	For always being a responsible and respectful student in class.
<i>Yr 4 JC</i>	Pearl Timmins	For consistently showing outstanding responsibility and leadership within our school. Well done Pearl!
<i>Yr 4 JC</i>	Fletcher Eslick	For always displaying a kind, positive attitude to all aspects of school life. Well done Fletcher!
<i>Yr 4 LC</i>	Bonnie Martini	For her outstanding attitude towards learning and for giving her best in all that she does.
<i>Yr 4 LC</i>	Mason Chappell	For strong, expressive reading and for working hard to expand his sentence writing.
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Archie McLaren	For your kindness and care to other students in our class. Amazing care Archie!
<i>Yr 5 FM</i>	Charlotte Lagana	For your efforts and amazing teamwork at the Netball Lightning Prem- Great work Charlotte!
<i>Yr 5 KH</i>	Harry Higgins	For an outstanding attitude toward school, focused and always using his time well.
<i>Yr 5 KH</i>	Ivy Mason	For using her time at school productively, being a great friend and positive role model.
<i>Yr 6 DW</i>	Toby Broad	For his excellent leadership on the football field at the Lightning Premiership.
<i>Yr 6 DW</i>	Piper Stephenson	For the outstanding positive attitude she brings to class every day, which lifts the spirits of those around her.
<i>Principal's Award</i>	Year 5 & 6 Lightning Premiership football team	For outstanding sportsmanship, kindness and displaying St Margaret's values by supporting others.



**Our Second
Special Lunch
For Term 2**

Orders via flexi app

School Community News



Thank you for supporting St Margaret's Primary School and our fundraising efforts! This term we're running a Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough fundraiser to help raise money for a new Shade Sail in our playground.

Billy G's is an Australian, family-owned company with 10 delicious flavours—Choc Chunk, Golden Classic, Cinnamon Donut and even Doggie Dough for your furry friends! It's only available through fundraising, so now's the perfect time to stock up.

Getting started is easy:

All orders are placed online. Create your child's profile at cookie dough.com.au by clicking Register and following the prompts. Orders are open from now to 15th July 2026, so jump in and create your profile today.

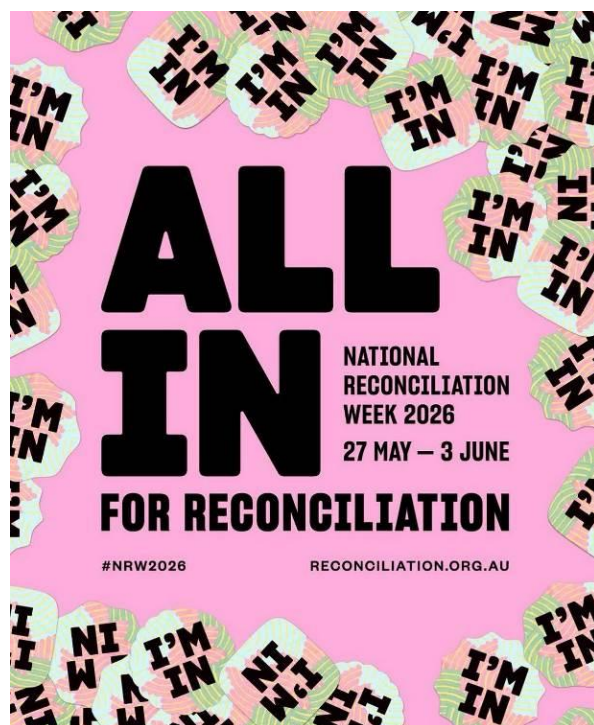
Prizes:

Get rewards for your fundraising efforts! Sell two tubs and your child earns a prize! The more tubs sold, the more prizes they receive—there are 11 in total to aim for. Prizes are automatically ordered at the end of the fundraiser. Plus, anyone who completes all virtual badges wins a Free Magic Alien Growing Pet.

Family and friends make amazing supporters, so spread the word and watch your total grow!

Check your Order Form for all the details!

*Let's dough this!
St Margaret's P & F*





Getting started is easy

All orders are placed online. Create your child's profile at cookiedough.com.au by clicking Register and following the prompts. Orders are open from now to 15th July 2026, so jump in and create your profile today.

WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM



KELLY SPORTS



29 JUN - 10 JUL

BARWON VALLEY ACTIVITY CENTRE

8:00AM - 5:00PM

PREP - GRADE 6

\$65 FULL DAY

\$300 FULL WEEK

We're excited to be back for a fun-filled School Holiday program including lots of sports, awesome games & **MUCH MORE!**

SPECIAL EVENT DAYS

NERF WARS - WED 1st July

NINJA WARRIOR - THU 2nd July
An additional \$25 incursion fee applies for this day.

FUTSAL COMP - WED 8th July

RACQUET SPORT EXCURSION - THU 9th July
An additional \$10 excursion fee applies for this day.

WHAT TO BRING?

Bring along appropriate clothing, jacket, or sweatshirt, hat, drink bottle, and food for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.



BOOK ONLINE NOW

WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GEELONG

GEELONG@KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU | 0497 770 909

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HART IN HARMONY &
VITAL HEALTH
CHIROPRACTIC PRESENT

WHAT YOUR CHILD'S BODY IS TRYING TO TELL YOU

*Understanding reflexes,
emotions & behaviour...
& how to gently support them*



A TWO-PART WORKSHOP SERIES AT EBB & FLOW WELLNESS STUDIO



PART 1 — PARENT ONLY **Weds 17 June | 7:30–9:00pm**

Understanding movement & regulation more deeply

- Movement, brain and nervous system development
- How retained primitive reflexes may influence learning, posture & regulation
- Recognising altered movement patterns & retained reflexes
- Supporting regulation and development at home



PART 2 — PARENT & CHILD (AGES 5-12) **Sun 21 June | 1:30–2:45pm**

Playfully bringing understanding into everyday life

- Simple, body-based practices to experience together
- Movement and rhythm activities that may support primitive reflex integration
- Supporting regulation, body awareness and emotional safety
- Practical tools to continue using at home



To reserve your place, visit:
hartinharmony.com.au

Maranda 0422 218 000

Investment: \$110 (both sessions) | \$50 (Part 1 only)

*From understanding...
to greater awareness, confidence
& support.*



Child Safe Standard 4

Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

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 ensures they have agency and voice about all matters that impact their safety. Our Catholic communities ensure systems, processes, policies and cultures encourage and respect the voices of children and young people.

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 4:

To be aligned, schools must support the following:

- Families participate in decisions affecting their child
- The organisation engages and openly communicates with families and the community about its child safe approach and relevant information is accessible.
- Families and communities have a say in the development and review of the organisation's policies
- Families, carers and the community are informed about the organisation's operations and governance.

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.

"The role of the family in building a culture of life is decisive and irreplaceable" This quote comes in the greater context of Pope John Paul's message about the family being at the heart of the ***"civilization of love"***.

What does this look like in a school environment?

- **Keeping families informed:** We provide parents, carers and the community with regular updates about child safety and wellbeing so everyone knows what is being done to keep children safe and so parents and carers can continue the conversation at home.
- **Inviting parent, carer and community involvement:** We create varied opportunities for families, carers and community members to participate in surveys, forums or school events that focus on child safety and wellbeing, and seek their feedback
- **Working together:** We build trust and open communication with families, carers and the wider community. We ensure families, carers and members of the community have access to a variety of communication channels.
- **Welcoming different perspectives:** We are always open and welcoming of ideas that help keep children safe. We create varied ways for people to provide us with their feedback and share their ideas. We also actively seek to go beyond the school gate to meet families and the wider community at different places of learning, so we are all walking together.

How Parents, Carers and Guardians can get involved!

Child Safe Standard 4 is about making sure schools, families, carers and the wider community work together to keep children safe. Here are some simple ways families can help:

- **Stay informed:** Read school updates about safety and wellbeing
- **Keep talking:** Have regular, open conversations with your child about what safety feels like for them and how they feel when they are at school or other places away from home. Ensure they know they have trusted adults they can speak to if they are concerned. Make sure they know who these adults are.
- **Get involved:** Attend school events, take part in surveys or forums that seek your feedback. Let your children see that you prioritise this connection with the school.
- **Share your perspective:** Contact the school with any ideas or thoughts you have that will help everyone to keep children safe. You may be able to offer a unique perspective or idea that the school has not considered.

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](#).

Check out these additional resources from below to learn more:

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AFIS): [Parents' involvement in their Children's Education Community Engagement](#)

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL): [Strengthening Parent Engagement to Improve Student Outcomes](#)

