

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Two, Week 9
June 15th, 2026
#17

From Susan's Desk

Dear Families,

Our Year 1 students recently enjoyed a spectacular day out at the Werribee Zoo. The weather was absolutely perfect, treating everyone to some beautiful sunshine as they explored the various animal habitats and discovered what makes each creature so unique. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn and explore in such a rich, hands-on environment. The excursion was an incredibly successful and memorable day for our young learners, and we are so proud of how beautifully they represented our school.



Leadership and Management News

As we move further into the term, I want to take a moment to address a growing concern regarding student attendance. While we fully understand that there are completely valid reasons for missing school, such as illness or pre-planned family holidays, we have recently noticed a high number of absences over the consecutive weeks. Regular school attendance is absolutely vital for your child's academic progress, as teachers carefully program lessons that build on each day's learning. Missing even a few days can create gaps that are difficult to bridge. Beyond academics, coming to school every day provides an essential social and emotional foundation, offering children a predictable routine and the opportunity to build deep connections with their peers and staff. We truly miss our students when they are not here, and we want them in the classroom as much as possible to ensure they get the most out of their education.

Unfortunately, we are facing an ongoing safety issue regarding the drop-off and pick-up zone at the back of the school. We have seen a high volume of vehicles parking in designated no-standing zones, as well as drivers traveling at unsafe speeds through this busy area. Even on rainy days, we strictly ask that you use legal parking bays and take the extra time to walk your child safely into the school grounds. Our staff members on crossing duty have become increasingly aware of this illegal driving and parking, and many concerned parents have also brought this to my attention. Please be advised that council parking inspectors may be onsite over the next few weeks and are authorised to issue on-the-spot fines for any illegal parking or unsafe driving. Let us all work together to do the right thing and prioritise the safety of all children and families using this space.

Our Parents and Friends association has some exciting updates and reminders for our community. This coming Friday is Hot Dog Day, and you can place your orders easily via the Flexischools app. We are also thrilled to report that our cookie dough drive is making fantastic progress, having already raised over five hundred dollars in profit, which is an amazing effort by everyone involved. Please continue to support these great initiatives, as all funds raised are going directly toward purchasing a new shade sail for our students to enjoy.



...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

Looking ahead, please check the dates listed in this newsletter for upcoming Term 3 events, including a special morning tea, the Father's Day stall and breakfast, our ever-popular bake sale, the pie and footy colours day, and the Father's Day raffle. I extend a sincere thank you to everyone who attended our last meeting to get these initiatives moving, and it was particularly wonderful to welcome a dad and some new faces to the group. We are always eager to welcome new members who want to contribute to our incredible school community.

Finally, I am pleased to share that our major building works are progressing incredibly well. We are very hopeful that we will be able to move into this wonderful new space by the end of the term, and we appreciate your ongoing patience during construction. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our community safe and connected, and I hope you all have a great week ahead.

Susan Perks



Aussie of the Month

Darcy Menheere

Darcy always strives to ensure her environments, both in the classroom and within shared play spaces are safe and welcome for all.

Darcy cares deeply for those around her and how they may be feeling, always offering a helping hand or kind words to her peers. She is always showing the St Margaret's values and is a role model in the classroom and for the school community.

Missing Shoe

Shoe found in playground,
has not been claimed.
Size 1 Everflex brand



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

(new items in bold)

Term Two

June

Tuesday, June 16 th	Division Tee-Ball - Stead Park (selected students)
	School Advisory Board 7pm
Wednesday, June 17 th	Prep Incursion: Kids Help Line Session - Managing Emotions
Friday, June 19 th	P&F Special Lunch - Hot Dogs
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 15 th	Closing date for Cookie Dough orders
	Emmaus Meal at 5pm - First Eucharist preparation family night
Friday, July 24th	Cheer Truck Toasties
	Grandparents' Day
Wednesday, July 29th	Cookie Dough orders distributed

August

Sunday, August, 2 nd	Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm
Wednesday, August 5th	P&F Special Morning Tea - Finger Buns
Monday, August 10th	Year 3 & 4 Swimming
Friday, August 7 th	District Athletics - Landy Field (selected students)
Friday, August 14 th	Prep Incursion: Build-a-Bear
Tuesday, August 18 th	School Advisory Board 7pm
Monday, August 24 th -28 th	Book Week "Symphony of Stories"
Monday August 24th	Year 1 & 2 Swimming
Tuesday, August 25 th	Book Week dress up day with morning parade

September

Tuesday, September 1 st	Division Athletics (selected students)
Friday, September 4th	Donuts with Dad
	Fathers' Day Stall
	Fathers' Day Raffle
	Bake Sale items due at school
Saturday, September 5th	Fathers' Day Bake Sale
Monday, Sep 7 th -11 th	Book Fair Week
Monday, September 14th	Prep and Year 6 Swimming
Thursday, September 17th	Footy Colours Day
	P&F Special Lunch - Pies
	Footy Raffle
Friday, September 18 th	End Term 3 - 1.30pm dismissal



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

School Community News

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Once again, for the 3rd time, St Margaret's will be competing in the **Australian Mathematics Competition**, to be held on **Thursday, August 6th**. We had 36 students competing in 2025, with some of them doing very well.

The competition is open to all students from **Years 3 to 6** and provides a challenging setting to showcase their mathematical skills. All students who participate in the competition will receive a certificate indicating their level of achievement at their year level.

The Australian Mathematics Competition is an optional event, as it aims to challenge students and their mathematical capabilities. There will be an **entry fee of \$9.30** per student. Entry is via payment to the school's bank account below and **must be paid by the end of Term 3, Week 2 - Friday, 24 July**.

If you have any questions, please email Matt de Jong at

mdejong@smgeelongeast.com.au.

Entry to the Australian Mathematics Competition bank details:

St Margaret's School

BSB: 083347

Acc No: 658335261

Ref: Australian Mathematics Competition - Child's Name



Student of the Week Awards

Class	Student	Awards presented Friday, June 12 th
Prep JC	Ruby Maccoll	For working hard to blend sounds and read new words! Well Done Ruby!
Prep JC	Jagger Munn	For amazing writing and doing a wonderful job sounding out his words! Well Done Jagger!
Prep SB	Oliver Bell	For his excellent efforts in reading, it is great to see you progress!
Prep SB	Heidi Pritchard	For being an excellent example of our school values, always showing respectful, responsible and safe behaviour in all her interactions.
Yr 1 EK	Chase Zahra	For working incredibly hard on your reading, and making an effort to use your phoneme fist when decoding unknown words! Well done!
Yr 1 EK	Indira Clapinski	For showing great insight at our Zoo excursion and helping others throughout the day! Keep it up!
Yr 1 JB	Maliah Robinson	For showing kindness towards others at all times. Well done Maliah!
Yr 1 JB	Koa Gonzales	For working towards implementing a growth mindset in all areas of your schooling. Well done Koa!
Yr 2 CR	Valentina Ghin	For her wonderful retell and writing of The Three Little Pigs. Well done!
Yr 2 CR	Fergus Boyle	For his improved effort in handwriting! Well done Fergus!
Yr 3 AC	Darcy Menheere	For your outstanding work in your compound and complex sentences. Well done Darcy!
Yr 3 AC	Archie Mactier	For your determination in all areas of your learning. Well done Archie!
Yr 3 HM	Stevie Sahr	For your terrific work with addition and subtraction.
Yr 3 HM	Ezra Knight	For extending yourself in your learning and always doing your best.
Yr 4 JC	William Ferguson	For always displaying leadership qualities amongst our Grade 4 cohort. Well Done William!!
Yr 4 JC	Raff Vaughan	For asking curious questions that deepen our learning and always trying his best. Well Done Raff!!
Yr 4 LC	Mila Tran	For taking care with the presentation of her work and for persistence in solving Maths problems.
Yr 4 LC	Boston Coots	For striving to understand all new learning and aiming for accuracy in all that he does.
Yr 5 FM	Ria Agular Vadivel	For excellent writing and research on your writing text "The Gherkin". Well done Ria!
Yr 5 FM	Oscar Poole	For consistently making positive choices in class and applying a positive approach to learning tasks.
Yr 5 KH	Colton Blackwell	Having beautiful manners and being a friend to everyone. Thanks You Colton.
Yr 5 KH	Addison Launer	Showing initiative and always being ready to help others. Thank you Addy.
Yr 6 DW	Lily Bell	For her all round ability. Lily brings high level effort, leadership, common sense and a great sense of humour.
Yr 6 DW	Eden Tran	For his excellence in the ICT leadership group. Eden is a fantastic support for his peers and staff.
Principal's Award	Fletcher Eslick	For upholding our St Margaret's values and showing kindness and respect to others.



**Our Second
Special Lunch
For Term 2**

Orders via flexi app

together in faith

School Community News



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.

School Community News

Epsilon Courtyard

On June 1st we opened our Epsilon Courtyard. Thank you to the Costello family for their generous donation and the Sahr family for their vision!



@ronexgeelong

@ltklandscaping

@epsiloninstrumentation

PARENTING SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Geelong & Barwon Southwest

Term 3, 2026



Free parenting programs for families with children, babies to teens aged (0–18 years)

Programs delivered by:

Geelong Regional Parenting Service, MELI, Catholic Care Victoria, and Drummond St Services

- ✓ In person and online options
- ✓ Evidence based, supportive programs
- ✓ Delivered by trusted local services
- ✓ Bookings are essential for all programs

NEW for 2026

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

1-2-3 Emotion Coaching – Additional Needs

This is a gentle, supportive program for parents and carers of children who experience big or unpredictable emotions.

Designed for families supporting children who are neurodivergent, have a developmental delay or disability, or need extra help with emotional regulation.

Using a simple 1-2-3 approach, parents learn to notice and name emotions, support calming through connection and co-regulation, and guide behaviour once emotions settle.

Flexible, practical strategies.
No pressure, just support

FREE FAMILY FORUM:

RAISING GRATEFUL HEARTS FORUM

Presented by Positive Parenting Expert Rod Soper

What if small, everyday moments could help your child grow into a kind, resilient and grateful person?

Discover practical, research-informed strategies to help children develop thankfulness, empathy, resilience, and a greater appreciation of others.

Key Highlights:

- Simple gratitude practices for everyday family routines.
- Age-appropriate activities and conversation starters for children aged 0–12 years.
- Practical ways to build kindness, empathy, and resilience.
- Fun games and real-life strategies backed by child development principles.
- Take home a mini – Gratitude Toolkit to use straight away.

Event Details:

- Thursday 20 August
- 7.00pm – 9.00pm
- Norlane ARC, 1/9 Cox Rd, Norlane
- Free event
- Bookings essential

Scan QR Code to Register



COMMUNITY PARENT & CARER EDUCATION SESSIONS

Free, practical sessions covering early parenting topics including solids, fussy eating, toilet training, toddler sleep, emotional wellbeing, new siblings, and an Ambulance Victoria session.

Online and in-person options available.
Register: <https://geelong.link/CES>



Scan QR Code to register

ARE YOU A NEW GRANDPARENT?

Join our Grandparenting Program to connect with others and explore how raising children has changed over time. Supportive sessions for new grandparents to connect, share experiences, and learn about modern parenting, child behaviour, safety, and wellbeing.

PROGRAMS FOR BABIES & YOUNG CHILDREN (0–9 YEARS)

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS – THE FIRST 1000 DAYS

For: Parents with children under 2 years
This program supports parents to understand early brain development, nurture secure relationships, and reflect on their own experiences of being parented.

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

For: Parents with children aged 12 months to 9 years
This program supports parents to strengthen communication with their child/ren, build positive parent-child relationships, and encourage the development of children's positive self-identity.

CIRCLE OF SECURITY

For: Parents of children aged 1-5 years
Length: 8 weeks
This program helps parents build strong, secure relationships by understanding children's emotional needs and responding in ways that support healthy development.

PROGRAMS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (4–12 YEARS)

TUNING IN TO KIDS

For: Parents of children aged 4–10 years
Length: 6 weeks
Supports parents to help children understand and manage emotions, strengthen relationships, and improve social and learning outcomes.

THE ANXIETY COACH

For: Parents of children aged 5–12 years
Length: 5 weeks
Focuses on understanding childhood anxiety and learning practical strategies to build resilience and confidence in children.

STRENGTHENING FAMILY CONNECTIONS

For: Parents and children aged 8–12 years
Length: 8 weeks
Supports families to build positive relationships, strengthen communication, and create a strong family culture.

PROGRAMS FOR ADOLESCENTS & PRE-TEENS (10–18 YEARS)

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS – ADOLESCENTS

For: Parents of children aged 10–17 years
Length: 6 weeks
Supports parents to stay connected with adolescents, understand behaviour, and manage the challenges of parenting during this stage.

TUNING IN TO TEENS

For: Parents of teens aged 12–18 years
Length: 6 weeks
Focuses on communication, emotional intelligence, adolescent development, and maintaining empathy and connection.

THE DAD WORKSHOP

This 6-week program will focus on giving you the tools you need to create a better life for your entire family.
We will look at simple things you can do to improve:

- your relationship with yourself
- your relationship with your partner
- your relationship with your kids

OUR KIDS – PARENTING AFTER SEPARATION

For: Parents following separation
Length: 6 weeks
Supports parents to focus on children's needs and develop helpful communication strategies after separation.

Fizz Kidz

JUNE & JULY HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

BOOK 10:00AM TO 12:30PM, 1:30PM TO 4:00PM, OR STAY FOR THE FULL DAY!

352 Pakington St, Newtown VIC 3220

Hands-on,
creative workshops
designed to bring
loads of fun to your
winter break!

KAWAII KITTY



SCIENCE LAB



CHARM LAB



OVER 50 ACTIVITIES TO CHOOSE FROM!

**BOOK TODAY &
SECURE YOUR PLACE**

Places book quickly, we recommend
you book well in advance.

☎ (03) 9059 8144 🌐 fizzkidz.com.au ✉ bookings@fizzkidz.com.au