

NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term Three, Week 1
July 13th, 2026
#19

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating break and are ready for a wonderful term ahead. Today, our staff are spending time together at the Ta' Pinu Shrine in Bacchus Marsh for our spirituality day. These opportunities for our staff to gather, reflect, and pray, away from the daily routine are incredibly important. Today's focus is on our collective faith formation, deepening our understanding of Catholic identity and traditions so that we can authentically share and model these values with our students. It is through these moments of shared spiritual growth that we strengthen the heart of our school community, ensuring that our faith continues to guide everything we do in the classroom and beyond.

As we return to our routines, a very important date is approaching on Friday, August 7th: our school census. To secure our essential government funding and report accurately, it is vital that all students attend school regularly, particularly within the two-week window surrounding the census date. Consistent attendance at school is incredibly important for your child's academic progress, social development, and overall well-being. Missing even a few days can create gaps in learning that are difficult to fill. We also ask that students arrive on time each morning and stay for the full day to maximize their learning opportunities and minimize disruptions to the classroom. We warmly ask for your support in ensuring your children attend school every day so that our census data accurately reflects our community, allowing us to secure the vital funding required to resource our programs and facilities.

Please see the attached information detailing the exciting events planned by our Parents and Friends (P&F) association for Term 3. Our first P&F meeting for the term will be held on Thursday, July 16th at 7:00 pm in the staffroom. We have an ambitious and wonderful calendar planned, but we genuinely need the support of our families to ensure these events can go ahead successfully. We would love to see some new faces at the meeting who might be able to lend a hand, share fresh ideas, or offer a bit of time. If you cannot attend the meeting in person but would still love to help out with one or more of our upcoming events, please reach out and let me know. Additionally, a quick reminder that our delicious cookie dough fundraiser orders close this week. Please support this initiative and get those final orders submitted over the next few days.

In some exciting news, we are partnering with Winston and Co to offer our families a weekly lunch order service starting on Friday, July 31st. You will be able to place your orders easily via the Flexischools app, and the meals will be delivered directly to your child's classroom. Please note that this new weekly service does not replace our traditional P&F special lunch order days and morning teas, which remain vital in raising valuable funds for our school. Winston and Co is not a fundraiser for the school, but rather a direct response to families requesting a regular, weekly lunch option. We will trial this service throughout Term 3 and will look for your feedback later in the term to decide whether we continue it for the remainder of the year.

...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

The start of this term is shaping up to be exceptionally busy with a variety of special events. For our families of students receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist, please mark your calendars for the Emmaus Meal on Wednesday, July 15th. This is a compulsory evening event where students have the opportunity to reflect deeply on the sacrament, and families can discuss together what will occur on the big day. We are also thrilled to celebrate Grandparents Day on Friday, July 24th. The day will begin with a beautiful liturgy at 11.40am and conclude with a shared toastie lunch offered by the Cheer Truck. Please note that all toastie orders must be placed in advance via the Flexischools app. If you are able to assist, you can also sign up on the app to help cook and serve the toasties on the day.

As the winter chill continues, a quick reminder that even in cold weather, we always attempt to get the children outside to play at recess and lunchtime for fresh air and exercise. To keep warm, official school beanies can be purchased from the front office, and we strongly encourage students to wear a warm coat or rain jacket when playing outside. On that note, maintaining the correct school uniform remains highly important to us. Wearing the uniform correctly fosters a strong sense of belonging, equality, and pride in our school identity, while ensuring our students look smart and unified. We ask for your cooperation in ensuring that all students are dressed in their full and correct winter uniform every single day.

Finally, our major building project successfully concluded over the school holidays with the installation of brand-new windows in the front office space and the Year 1 classrooms. We are absolutely delighted with the final results of these renovations, which have created much brighter and more spaces. We warmly invite our families to pop into the office to take a look at the fresh changes. We extend our thanks to all our families for your incredible patience, cooperation, and support throughout the duration of this renovation project. We are looking forward to seeing all of our students back on Tuesday for a busy and productive Term 3!

Enjoy your week!

Susan Perks

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Aira Vadivel

1 EK

Demonstrating kindness during outside play and in the classroom. Ensuring new members of our class and school feel included.

Congratulations Aira!



Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term Three

July

Monday, July 13th

Tuesday, July 14th

Wednesday, July 15th

Thursday, July 16th

Thursday, July 23rd

Friday, July 24th

Wednesday, July 29th

August

Sunday, August, 2nd

Monday August 3rd &

Tuesday, August 4th

Wednesday, August 5th

Monday, August 10th

Friday, August 7th

Friday, August 14th

Tuesday, August 18th

Wednesday, August 19th

Monday, August 24th-28th

Monday August 24th

Tuesday, August 25th

September

Tuesday, September 1st

Friday, September 4th

Saturday, September 5th

Monday, Sep 7th-11th

Monday, September 14th

Thursday, September 17th

Friday, September 18th

Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning

Students begin Term Three

Closing date for Cookie Dough orders

Emmaus Meal at **5.30pm** – please note change of time

P&F Meeting 7pm

Grade 5/6 Geoffrey Carran Artist Incursion

Cheer Truck Toasties

Grandparents' Day

Cookie Dough orders distributed

Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

Fire Carriers "Opening The Doors" Hot Chocolate Fundraiser

8:40am- 9am BYO MUG

P&F Special Morning Tea - Finger Buns

Year 3 & 4 Swimming

District Athletics - Landy Field (selected students)

Prep Incursion: Build-a-Bear

School Advisory Board 7pm

P&F Special Lunch - Vietnamese

Book Week "Symphony of Stories"

Year 1 & 2 Swimming

Book Week dress up day with morning parade

Division Athletics (selected students)

Donuts with Dad

Fathers' Day Stall

Fathers' Day Raffle

Bake Sale items due at school

Fathers' Day Bake Sale

Book Fair Week

Prep and Year 6 Swimming

Footy Colours Day

P&F Special Lunch - Pies

Footy Raffle

End Term 3 - 1.30pm dismissal

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 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



School Community News



Congratulations Lacey!

Lacey participated in Coerver Soccer Coaching Holiday Camp during the holidays.

She had an absolute blast, and was awarded Best Female Player for her performance, resilience and manners! She won the blue Japan soccer jersey she is holding up in the second picture for her efforts.



**Please join us to celebrate our
Grandparents!**

Friday July 24th

*Happy
Grandparents
Day!*

11.40 Liturgy in the Church

12.30-1.15 Classroom Activities

1.15pm shared toastie lunch

****order toasties via flexischools app.**

Scholastic Book Fair Issue 5 will be available for students to bring home this week. The closing date for orders will be Wednesday, July 22nd.

Student of the Week Awards

Class	Student	Awards presented Friday,
Prep JC	Sol Augert	For his persistence during sport.
Prep JC	Charlie Chappell	For his enthusiasm during maths.
Prep SB	Daisy Butler	For sharing her excellent organisational skills to help her class and for being kind.
Prep SB	Sloane Bartlett	For showing kindness to others and for striving to always do her best in class.
Yr 1 EK	Harry Haberfield	For your excellent diorama and sharing a helping hand. Well done Harry.
Yr 1 EK	Pia Lekkas	For your excellent diorama and sharing a helping hand. Well done Pia.
Yr 1 JB	Agatha Salkeld	For your positive determination shown towards your reading. Well done Agi!
Yr 1 JB	Lennox Mahoney	For working towards implementing a growth mindset towards all areas of your schooling. Well done Lennox!
Yr 2 CR	Emmanuelle Spitale	For her wonderful retell of a traditional fairytale! Well done Emmanuelle.
Yr 2 CR	Summer Takai	For an excellent first two terms at St Margarets! Well done Summer.
Yr 3 AC	Caden Mirmilstein	For your outstanding effort in your writing. Great work Caden!
Yr 3 AC	Luna Stephenson	For your persistence in all your maths work. Well done!
Yr 3 HM	Jonah Smith	For your consistent effort in your writing.
Yr 3 HM	Harper Fischer	For continually pushing yourself in your Mathematics.
Yr 4 JC	Izzy Porter	For her kind attitude towards her peers and her outstanding presentation of her work. Well Done Izzy!!
Yr 4 JC	Jonathon Reid	For adding great detail to his fantastic writing during literacy. Well done Jonathon!!
Yr 4 LC	Luella Young	For engaging positively in Maths learning and being focused and persistent with tasks. Great attitude, Luella!
Yr 4 LC	Chester Toohey	For contributing to our class with humour, creativity and friendliness. Great attitude, Chester!
Yr 5 FM	Taj Reynolds	For an excellent Term 2 of high quality work across all subject areas. Fantastic effort Taj!
Yr 5 FM	Olive Spencer Harmer	For working hard on your factual recount on Jandamarra, great writing. Well done Olive!
Yr 5 KH	Charlotte Nolan	Creating an excellent Volcano slideshow including interesting facts and an excellent presentation. Well done.
Yr 5 KH	Joa Dredge	Working really well on his volcano investigation and creating a great slideshow. Well done.
Yr 6 DW	Jack O'Brien	For his responsible attitude towards school, and caring, giving nature towards his friends.
Yr 6 DW	Camilla Barton	For her wonderful caring nature which she willingly shares with her peers.
Principal's Award	Audrey Bailey-Lane 2CR	For outstanding courage, determination, and bright spirit at school every single day.

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.

The poster has a light cream background. At the top, there are several diagonal stripes in yellow, pink, and light blue. Scattered throughout the background are small red four-pointed stars. At the bottom, three donuts are partially visible: one with blue frosting and black sprinkles on the left, a large pink one with white and yellow sprinkles in the center, and one with yellow frosting and black swirls on the right.

DONUTS WITH DAD!

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH
FROM 8.15AM**

FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE WILL BE
DRAWN



P&F Upcoming EVENTS

AUG

5

SPECIAL
MORNING TEA
FINGER BUNS
FLEXISCHOOLS
APP

JULY

15

COOKIE DOUGH
ORDERS CLOSE

AUG

19

SPECIAL LUNCH
VIETNAMESE
FLEXISCHOOLS
APP

JULY

16

P&F MEETING
STAFF ROOM
FROM 7PM

SEPT

4

DOONUTS WITH
DAD
FATHER'S DAY
STALL
FATHER'S DAY
RAFFLE

JULY

24

GRANDPARENTS
DAY
TOASTIE CHEER
TRUCK
FLEXISCHOOLS
APP

SEPT

5

FATHER'S DAY
BAKE SALE

JULY

31

WINSTON & CO
LUNCH ORDERS
BEGIN WEEKLY
FLEXISCHOOLS
APP

SEPT

17

FOOTY COLOURS
DAY
SPECIAL LUNCH
PIES
FOOTY DAY
RAFFLE





WEEKLY LUNCH *orders*

Freshly made, delicious, and ready for you!



winston & co

ORDER VIA FLEXISCHOOLS APP

BEGINNING FRIDAY JULY 31ST

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LIBRARY



WHAT'S ON IN Term 3 2026

Each month at **Newcomb Library**, we host a fantastic range of in-person and online events and programs for children and adults alike.

Check out what's happening this month and book to join in today!

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified. Scan the QR code for full details on our website, including any booking information.



Baby Time (Preschool)

Thursday's 11:30am to 11:50am



Toddler Time (Preschool)

Tuesday's 10:30am to 11:00am

Preschool Story Time (Preschool)

Friday's 10:30am to 11:15am

Lego WeDo (Ages 8+)

Wed's, 22 July to 12 Aug, 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Code Club (Ages 8+)

Wed's, 19 Aug to 16 Sept, 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Artists Assemble! (Ages 5+)

Thur's, 23 July to 17 Sept, 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Home-school: Blossom Tree Art (All Ages)

Thursday, 3 September, 9:30am to 10:30am

Healthy Smiles Story Time (Preschool)

Friday 21 August, 10:30am to 11:15am

book
now

Online www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events
in person, or phone 000 000 000

www.grlc.vic.gov.au



Census and special circumstance applications privacy collection notice

About

The Australian Government Department of Education (the department) would like to advise all staff, parents, guardians and students (where applicable) that it will collect certain information about your school, its staff and student body as part of the non-government schools census collection (the census) and special circumstance applications.

How and what information is collected for the census?

Census information is provided to the department by your school's legal entity (the approved authority) via the Education Funding System (EFS).

The census provides information about your school and the number and characteristics of the school's staff and student body during a specific reference period. Information and characteristics collected through the census include:

- teaching and non-teaching staff
- students' year level and workload
- students' gender and age (as on 1 July 2026)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and students
- students with disability
- students receiving distance education
- day, boarding and overseas students.

The names of students and staff are not collected, apart from the name, position and contact details of the staff member nominated as the primary contact for the census.

Census special circumstance applications

A census special circumstance application is for a student who did not attend during the census reference period and/or did not have a pattern of regular attendance at a school during the year but otherwise meet the non-government schools census eligibility requirements. Schools can apply to have a student individually considered for inclusion in the census through a census special circumstance application. Any information provided to the department through this application should be de-identified by the school.

Purpose of the census collection

The information provided during the census is collected by the department in accordance with the *Australian Education Act 2013* (the Act) and the Australian Education Regulations 2023 (the Regulations). The Act and the Regulations require the legal entity responsible for the administration of the school (the approved authority) to provide this information to the department to:

- ensure the provision of Australian Government funding to schools is properly calculated and appropriately managed
- conduct research, statistical analysis and develop school education policy for the Australian Government
- meet national and international reporting obligations on school students in Australia
- publish and provide information about schools to the public.

Use and disclosure of personal information

Your personal information is protected by law under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identified individual or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with the Privacy Act and the Act and Regulations and any other applicable laws.

Your personal information provided to the department through the census may be:

- Used or disclosed by the department for the purposes outlined above under the heading Purposes of the census collection.
- Disclosed to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to publish on the [My School](#) website and include as high-level data for ACARA's National Report on Schooling in Australia.
- Disclosed to state and territory government departments and authorities in accordance with the Act and Regulations.
- Disclosed to Australian Government departments and authorities in accordance with the Act and Regulations.
- Disclosed to non-government school representative bodies in accordance with the Act and Regulations.
- Disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department decides to audit or verify the information provided by an approved authority about a school. The contracted auditor may use previously collected information or request access to individual student records for comparison purposes. The contractors may pass this information onto officers within the department, if there is a discrepancy in the data provided by the school and the school's records and further investigation is required. The contracted auditor must handle personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act.
- Disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology support services to the department.
- Used to validate data from other collections undertaken by the department.
- Used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law including under the Act or Regulations, or otherwise permitted under the Privacy Act.

Other than in exceptional circumstances (for example, investigation of fraud relating to overseas students), the department does not disclose any of the personal information collected to overseas recipients.

You can find the department's privacy policy on the [Department of Education website](#) or request a copy from the department at privacy@education.gov.au. The privacy policy includes information about how to access or correct personal information held about you or your child, how to make a complaint about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how the department will deal with such a complaint.

What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. The approved authority of the school is responsible for providing the information to the department.

Contacts for further information

Your school can provide information about data provided for you or your child for the purposes of the census. To find out more about the census collection and reporting, [visit EducationHUB](#).

