NEWSLETTER

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools

St Margaret's Primary School

Term Four, Week 6
November 9th, 2026
#32

From Renée's Desk

Dear Families,

On Friday October 30th, we came together to celebrate World Teachers' Day — a wonderful opportunity to recognise and honour our incredible teaching staff, who make such a meaningful difference in the lives of our students each and every day. To mark the occasion, our support staff organised heartfelt thank-you cards and appreciation videos, creating a thoughtful gesture that meant the world to our teaching team. Adding to the celebrations, our fantastic Parents and Friends Association generously provided a delicious morning snack and lunch on behalf of the entire school community. We extend our warmest thanks to all of the dedicated helpers behind the scenes for their thoughtfulness and organisation in ensuring our teachers felt so loved, valued, and appreciated!

Leadership and Management News

In sporting news, our Year 6 boys achieved fantastic success on the cricket pitch recently, winning the Division Championships before advancing to represent the Geelong/Bellarine area at the Regional Cricket Finals in Keilor Park. Facing tough competition, the team played incredible cricket throughout the day, securing a great victory in one of their three matches. Beyond the scoreboard, the boys demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and skill on the big stage. A huge thank you to Mr. Wilson and Fraser for coaching, accompanying the team, and making this such a rewarding experience for the boys.


Top row: Archer McIntosh, Toby Broad, Harry Harvey, Jack O'Brien
Front row: Mac Salkeld, Harry Higgins, Jobe Greenwood, Ishe Tobayiwa
Coaches: Fraser Stow & Josh Wilson

Back on campus, we are thrilled to welcome our Prep JC students back into their home classroom today after spending the past two weeks based in the art room. Throughout the necessary roof repairs, our youngest learners showed incredible resilience and focus, continuing their hard work without missing a beat despite the change in environment. We could not be prouder of how seamlessly they adapted to their temporary setup. A special thank you also goes to Miss Costa for her tremendous patience and creativity as she pivoted to deliver roving art lessons directly to classrooms across the school—we truly appreciate her flexibility and dedication!

Looking ahead, on Tuesday November 10th when we will hold our Family Reconciliation Preparation Evening from 5:00 pm in the Year 6 classroom. This special session is designed for our candidates and their parents to come together as a family to deepen their understanding of, and prepare for, the upcoming Sacrament of Reconciliation taking place on November 26th. We encourage all candidate families to attend this meaningful step in their faith journey, and look forward to sharing the evening with you.

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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.

School Community News

Meanwhile, our Year 5/6 students excitedly set off this morning for their school camp at Camp Wilkin in Anglesea! School camp is always a highlight of the year, packed with outdoor adventures, team-building activities, and exciting new challenges that encourage growth and independence. We wish all our campers and accompanying staff a safe and thrilling trip, and we cannot wait to hear all about their adventures and the wonderful memories they will cherish for years to come.

Finally, throughout this month, our school community is proud to support Story Dogs, a wonderful program that helps young readers build confidence through non-judgmental literacy support. To help raise funds, we are running a special raffle throughout November, featuring fantastic prizes generously donated by Bri. Tickets are available for $2 each, with a lucky winner drawn every Monday throughout the month. Additionally, all profits from our Friday icy-pole sales during November will be directly donated to Story Dogs. We thank you in advance for your support in helping us raise money for such a meaningful cause.

Have a great week!
Renée Cunningham







Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term Four

November

Monday, Nov 9th-11th	Year 5/6 Camp Wilkin
Tuesday, November 10th	Reconciliation Family Preparation evening
Wed, Nov 11th - Fri Nov 13th	Footy Clinics (during P.E.)
Thursday, November 12th	Year 5/6 student rest day
Friday, November 13th	Year 1 Assembly
Monday, November 16th	P & F Slice Morning Tea / Slice Drive (please note change of date)
	St Margaret's Feast Day with Kaboom event
Tuesday, November 17th	Grade 5s Ten Pin Bowling
	2027 Prep Orientation – visit 3
Tuesday, November 24th	P & F Meeting 7pm
Wednesday, Nov 25th	Year 5 Incursion
	Greek Special Lunch
Thursday, November 26th	Sacrament of Reconciliation 12:15pm
Friday, November 27th	Assembly Year 2

December

Friday, December 4th	**Student Free Day - Staff Professional Learning**
Tuesday, December 8th	2027 Prep Orientation – visit 4
	2027 Step Up morning
	School Advisory Board 7pm
Thursday, December 10th	Whole School Christmas Concert
Friday, December 11th	Whole School Activity Day
Monday, December 14th	Year 6 Graduation
Tuesday, December 15th	Assembly - Prep presenting 12 noon
	End Term 4 - 1.30pm dismissal



Student of the Week Awards

Class	*Student*	*Awards presented Friday, October 30th*
Prep JC	Haddie Stephenson	For settling back into learning well after traveling around Australia. Well Done Haddie!
Prep JC	Jagger Munn	For his persistence in writing his letters and having a go at writing five letter words
Prep SB	Neve Ferrier	For showing stamina in her learning even when not feeling 100%, Super effort Neve!
Prep SB	Amelia Pfaffel	For her efforts in increasing her stamina and focus for learning. Well done!
Yr 1 EK	Indira Clapinski	For demonstrating great persistence in your PAT tests
Yr 1 EK	Arlo Vasiljkovic	For taking on board feedback and applying it to your learning.
Yr 1 JB	Maliah Robinson	For striving to put your best foot forward in all learning areas. Well done Maliah!
Yr 1 JB	Marli Mccoll	For employing a growth mindset towards all learning areas. Well done Marli!
Yr 2 CR	Alfred Holland	For his amazing work across our Space unit! Well done Alf.
Yr 2 CR	Mia McGennisken	For an excellent week of learning! Well done Mia!
Yr 3 AC	Luna Stephenson	For a wonderful job in all areas of your learning. Well done Luna!
Yr 3 AC	Jasnoor Natt	for fantastic efforts in your literacy. Well done Jas!
Yr 3 HM	Ivy Freedman	For always being a kind member in class and giving your best effort
Yr 3 HM	A.J Chapman	For your great scores in PAT Reading!
Yr 4 JC	Georgia McGennisken	For trying her best and showing great improvement in maths this year. Well Done Georgia!!
Yr 4 JC	Zainab Kamran	For always showing kindness and respect to all staff and students. Well Done Zainab!!
Yr 4 LC	Mila Tran	For her reflective thinking skills and her growing confidence in class discussion.
Yr 4 LC	Chester Toohey	For accurate and expressive reading, and for using interesting vocabulary in his writing
Yr 5 FM	Sophie Butcher	For your excellent writing based on the book The Last Bear, including emotion and detail in her piece, "Bear".
Yr 5 FM	Mac Salkeld	For your thoughtful writing piece, "Bear", showing wonderful detail and expressive emotion.
Yr 5 KH	Harry Higgins	For his outstanding behaviour and contributions on our science/ wellbeing excursion to Torquay.
Yr 5 KH	Jack Geoghengan	For his outstanding behaviour and contributions on our science/ wellbeing excursion to Torquay.
Yr 6 DW	Madison Ballard	For her fantastic and seamless transition back into the St Margaret's community. Madi has returned with a brilliant attitude, reconnecting with old friends, welcoming new ones, and diving straight back into learning with total enthusiasm. We are so thrilled to have you back where you belong!
Yr 6 DW	Piper Stephenson	For making an exceptional, high-energy return to the classroom following our 12-week break. Piper has walked back through the school doors with bright enthusiasm, a positive attitude, and a readiness to learn that has inspired both classmates and teachers alike. Thank you for bringing such fantastic energy back into our school community!

Literacy News

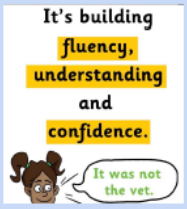


It's About Fluency…..

Have you noticed that your child brings home the same piece of text to read for the week?

YES- WHY??

…because we need students to re-read the same excerpts of texts many times to build confidence and fluency.





WHY?

…because being fluent is the link between reading words effortlessly and comprehension.

This means…..

..it is a crucial part of how we teach reading…..and..

..it is something that we do every single day, in every class and in every year level at St Margaret's….so……

..next time you see the same text, say…

let's read it again..and again..and again…





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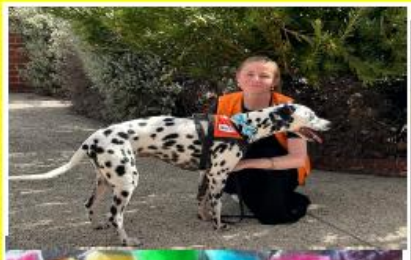
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School Community News

November is Story Dogs Month at St Margaret's







Story Dogs is a reading support program that is run by skilled volunteer handlers and an accredited companion dog.

Dash and his delightful handler Bri, have been visiting our school every Friday for the past two years and they make a wonderful addition to our school community.

This month you can raise money for Story Dogs every Friday in 2 different ways.

1. **Buy an icy pole from Dash and Bri at lunchtime for $1 AND / OR**
2. **Buy a raffle ticket for $2 to go into the draw to win a Lego set. There is a set to win each week of November - Winners are drawn in a new raffle every Monday at recess assembly.**



St Margaret's PS

Feast Day

Monday 16th November 2026



10 am -Liturgy in Church

12.00pm - 1.30pm KABOOM Sports on oval
Students to wear sports uniform

Families are invited to join us for our whole school Liturgy and watch our students participate in our Tabloid Sports event.

nab AFL Auskick

4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.





AFL Superkick

7-12 YEAR OLDS

Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.

*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).

ST MARGARET'S

THURSDAYS 3.30-4.30
SCHOOL OVAL

STARTING 19TH NOVEMBER

AUSKICK

SUPERKICK