

# NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's  
Primary School

*Term Four, Week 8*  
*November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024*  
*#36*

## *From Susan's Desk*

## *Leadership and Management News*

Dear Families,

Last Wednesday, our 2024 House Captains enjoyed an inspiring visit to GMHBA Stadium and the Sports Museum. They had a wonderful morning learning about the history of the stadium and its deep connection to the Geelong community. We extend our thanks to Mrs. Hanley and Miss Fiona for organising this enriching experience for our school leaders.

As we begin preparing for the 2025 school year, we are eagerly anticipating the next group of student leaders. Applications for Year 5 students interested in leadership roles will close soon. We look forward to hearing the speeches from our school captain and house captain candidates, who will share their vision for the future of St. Margaret's. Information has already been shared with the students, and we are excited to see their enthusiasm and ideas for our school community in 2025.

Step Up Orientation Day will be held on Tuesday, December 10th, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. On this day, we will warmly welcome new families, new staff, and our 2025 Prep students. Their families are invited to remain at the school during this time for an information session and a morning tea provided by the Parents & Friends. We sincerely thank our families for their trust and support as we finalise student groupings for the 2025 classes. While each student is encouraged to name a friend, our priority remains creating a calm and productive learning environment where students work well together. We understand that friendships can change, and staff carefully consider these dynamics when forming classes.

At this time of year, we also say goodbye to valued staff members who are moving on to new adventures.

**Kerrie-Anne Philbrick**, who has served at St. Margaret's for many years, has been instrumental in running our library, organising Book Week, and supporting students with kindness and compassion as a Learning Support Officer. Kerrie-Anne is relocating to Bendigo to be closer to her family and begin her retirement. We thank her for her outstanding service for 8 years and lasting impact on our school community.

**Lauren Ruffin**, our dedicated Italian teacher, has inspired students to embrace the Italian language and culture through her organisation of Italian Days and engaging lessons. Lauren will join Sacred Heart in 2025 as a Language Teacher, and we wish her every success in her dream role.

**Tenielle Buckby**, a committed Junior teacher since joining us in 2016, has shown unwavering dedication to her students and our school. Tenielle will transition to Woodline Primary School as a Year 2 Guide. We wish her happiness and fulfillment in her new role.

**Annette Thomas**, a cherished Learning Support Officer, has been a positive and welcoming presence at our school since 2016. We will miss her sunny disposition and wish her well as she begins her retirement.

*...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***

After 9 ½ years of remarkable contributions, **Rosa O’Beirne** will join Stella Maris at Point Cook as a Growth Coach for their staff. Rosa has been a vital part of our community, serving as Deputy Principal, Mental Health Leader, and Literacy Leader. Her expertise and dedication will be greatly missed, and we hope her time at Stella Maris is rewarding.

**Marie McBride** has generously shared her teaching expertise and passion with our staff and students for the past 3 years. Her kindness and skill have left a lasting impression on many students. Marie will retire at the end of the year, and we hope she enjoys this next chapter surrounded by family and new opportunities.

We also farewell **Rosa Genitori**, who has been a valued member of the St. Margaret’s community since 2018. Rosa’s dedication to reading intervention and her compassionate work with our EAL students has been deeply appreciated. She has touched countless lives through her care and commitment, leaving a lasting legacy at our school.

We say goodbye to **Maniah Onekawa**, who has been an enthusiastic and dedicated Learning Support Officer over the past two years. Maniah is moving to Iona in 2025 to continue her career as an LSO. Her positive impact on the students she has supported during her time with us will not be forgotten.

We extend our deepest gratitude to these incredible individuals for their dedication, compassion, and contributions that have shaped St. Margaret’s into the vibrant community it is today. Though we are saddened to see them go, we wish them happiness and success in their next endeavours.

Have a great week!  
Susan

---

## ***Entering the School.***

Please note that during the school day the only access to the school is via the front gates. ALL visitors must report to reception. This includes dropping off items including lunch to your child. Our front office staff will determine if you need to sign in or if they can help you with what you need.

We also ask that you sign your child out at the front office if they are required to leave early and sign them in if they are late. This includes when they leave for an appointment during the day and when they return. Our Child Safe Practices are in place to ensure the safety of all of our students. We thank you for ensuring all children are safe whilst at school.

*Items left at school from the 3/4 sleepover and 5/6 camp. Please collect from office if you recognize any of these. There’s also a couple of torches and a white-handled hair brush.*



As we begin the season of Advent this upcoming Sunday,  
we use symbols to help us mark the time of waiting.

The Advent wreath that always stays green and never dies.  
Just like God’s love for us never dies.

The four candles purple, purple, red and purple to mark the 4 weeks before Christmas.  
Hope, Love, Joy, Peace

## Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

### Term 4

#### November

Thursday, November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of First Reconciliation: 12 noon
Thursday, November 28 <sup>th</sup>	GALS at Deakin 9.30-2.30 for Year 6 girls
Friday, November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Prep presenting
Friday, November 29 <sup>th</sup>	RSVP for Year 6 Graduation due

#### December

Monday, December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5/6 excursion to Adventure Park
Tuesday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2025 School Captain speeches & leadership applications due
Wednesday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>	GALS project launch
Friday, December 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>School Closure Day - Staff Professional Learning</b>
Tuesday, December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Step Up Orientation Day
	2025 Prep Orientation Session 3
	Parent Session 9.30-10.45.
Tuesday, December 10 <sup>th</sup>	School Board 7pm
Wednesday, Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>	Welling Pod Official Opening
<b>Wednesday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Completion of relay events from Athletic sports day</b>
Thursday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Carols Evening
Friday, December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Movie & Picnic end of year celebration
Monday, December 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Graduation
Tuesday, December 17 <sup>th</sup>	Final day of Term 4. 1.30pm dismissal

### 2025 Start Dates

#### January

Tuesday, January 28 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Day. Student Free Day
Wednesday, January 29 <sup>th</sup>	1-1 testing P-6
Thursday, January 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1-6 First Day of School for 2025
	1-1 Prep testing
Friday, January 31st	Prep First Day of School. All P-6 onsite.

**All library books due back by Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> please.**

### St Margaret's Primary School



83 St Albans Road  
East Geelong 3219

Ph 5229 7453



Website: [www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Susan Perks [sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Office Managers: Anne Miller [amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Georgia Kavenagh [gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald [lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

*School Community News*

**St Margaret's Christmas Concert**  
**Important Information**

The students of St Margaret's have been busy preparing a Christmas performance to be presented at this year's Christmas concert. We would love for all families to join us on the Junior Basketball Courts on **Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please see below some important details regarding the evening.

**Costumes:** All students are asked to wear a Christmas themed/coloured outfit of their choice.

- Please arrive at 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start.
- 
- Food and Drinks available for purchase:
  - P&F BBQ
  - Baked Potato Van
  - Alternatively BYO Picnic
- BYO Chairs and Picnic Rugs
- Students are to be seated in their assigned area with their teachers at 5.55pm ready to begin at 6pm. They will remain in this space until the end of the concert.



Our staff will be selling Christmas items on the night to continue to raise funds for class sets of novels in 2025.

The following items will be for sale until sold out:

- Christmas slap bands (\$2)
- Small Christmas bouncy balls (\$2)
- Bubble wands (\$2)
- Small packet of Oreos (\$1)
- Zooper Dooper Icy Poles (\$1)



We ask that all students and families remain until the end of the concert to ensure all our students perform to an audience.

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to a wonderful evening!

### *Student of the Week Awards*

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>STUDENT</b>	<b>AWARDS – Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024</b>
<b>PREP</b>	Lucia Hanan	For being a brave and happy learner!
<b>PREP</b>	Lua Augert	For being a kind and helpful friend
<b>1/2 JB</b>	Kiwain De Silva	For your kindness shown towards others in the classroom.
<b>1/2 JB</b>	Ari Herwynen	For being an active and engaged learner in our Literacy block.
<b>1/2 TB</b>	Charles Brown	For always putting in his best effort during learning time.
<b>1/2 PB</b>	Isla Vetieri	For always carrying out her classroom jobs in a mature manner. Well done!
<b>1/2 PB</b>	Felicity Tanis	For always being a kind and supportive friend.
<b>3/4 HM</b>	Olive Spencer-Harmer	For your kindness, you show your classmates and help when needed.
<b>3/4 HM</b>	Niah Mirmilstein	For taking great pride in your 'Fire' writing and completing it to a great standard.
<b>3/4 LC</b>	Miles Hope	For his enthusiasm and effort in expanding his ideas for writing.
<b>3/4 LC</b>	Friday Foley	For her reflective thinking and strong work ethic.
<b>3/4 JK-KB</b>	Eli Knight	For his positive attitude toward all learning activities.
<b>3/4 JK-KB</b>	Finley Vaughan	For her thoughtful listening and responding during class discussions.
<b>5/6 KH</b>	Alastair Broad	For great work and focus during math and literacy learning. Well done.
<b>5/6 KH</b>	Ivy Timmins	For outstanding participation and teamwork in GALS workshops during Term 4.
<b>5/6 KH</b>	Leo Rivo	For having a great attitude towards school and learning- Keep it up Leo!
<b>5/6 JW</b>	Amelia Brown	For kindness and initiative, inspiring everyone around you. Thank you for always leading with compassion and care.
<b>5/6 JW</b>	Harrison Spark	For always being loyal and supportive to your mates. Thank you for being there for others.
<b>5/6 DJ-FM</b>	Alex Werner	For displaying excellent collaboration skills while taking part in the GALS program at Deakin University.
<b>5/6 DJ-FM</b>	Isaak Flannagan	For fantastic effort on your Celebrations Inquiry project - well done!
<b>Principal's Award</b>	Allegra Spitale	For her kindness towards others and always trying her best with learning tasks.

## Aussie of the Month

This month's Aussie of the Month  
is awarded to

# Molly Herwynen

Molly is kind, friendly and considerate of others. She takes care of our school property and gets along with everyone.





## KELLY CLUB

# JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ST MARGARETS  
AT 83 ST ALBANS ROAD EAST GEELONG,



**CCS**  
PROGRAM  
SUBSIDIES  
AVAILABLE!  
\*Conditions apply

Page 1 of 3

WEEK 1		WEEK 2	
Mon 30 Dec	<b>PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY</b>	PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>GLITTER &amp; GROOVE PARTY</b>                      Get ready for a fun-filled party at Kelly Club! We've got everything you need for a day of excitement—music, dancing, disco-themed crafts, and delicious cooking activities. So put on your dancing shoes, bring your energy, and let's dance, craft, and create unforgettable memories all day long!                 </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px; text-align: right; font-size: small;"> <b>FULL FEE</b> \$70 <b>AFTER MAX CCS*</b> \$7                 </div> </div>
Tue 31 Dec	<b>PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY</b>	PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>SUPERPOWERS &amp; SIDEKICKS</b>                      Get ready to become a superhero. Complete a superhero training course, and other tasks to become a hero. We will also do a variety of other activities to become superheroes for the day! Come dressed as your favourite hero...or villain!                 </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px; text-align: right; font-size: small;"> <b>FULL FEE</b> \$70 <b>AFTER MAX CCS*</b> \$7                 </div> </div>
Wed 1 Jan	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> Happy New Year!	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>CHAMPION'S CHALLENGE</b>                      Join us for Game extravaganza! We're creating our own HUGE board games with exciting twists on your classic favorites. Get ready for over sized fun, big challenges, and lots of laughs! Let the game begin!                 </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px; text-align: right; font-size: small;"> <b>FULL FEE</b> \$70 <b>AFTER MAX CCS*</b> \$7                 </div> </div>
Thur 2 Jan	<b>PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY</b>	PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>EXCURSION</b> </div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>EXCURSION DAY - MOVIES</b>                      Get ready for a fun-filled trip to the Cinema! Enjoy an awesome movie on the big screen with your friends. Don't forget your lunch, drink bottle, shoes, and hat for a day of adventure!                 </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px; text-align: right; font-size: small;"> <b>FULL FEE</b> \$110 <b>AFTER MAX CCS*</b> \$11                 </div> </div>
Fri 3 Jan	<b>PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY</b>	PROGRAM NOT ON TODAY	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>INCURSION</b> </div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <b>MARINE WILDLIFE</b>                      Take a deep dive with us on an exciting underwater submarine adventure! Explore the deep sea, discover amazing sea creatures, and create your very own sea foam and sea creature snacks. It's a splashin' good time full of fun, creativity, and ocean wonders.                 </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px; text-align: right; font-size: small;"> <b>FULL FEE</b> \$100 <b>AFTER MAX CCS*</b> \$10                 </div> </div>

Contact: Lily Davis Email: [stmargarets@kellyclub.com](mailto:stmargarets@kellyclub.com) Phone: 0422 775 712

Further information: [www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info](http://www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info)

\*Childcare subsidy (CCS) may apply. Please refer to Services Australia Childcare Subsidy for eligibility and entitlement.

## ENROL NOW AT

[kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets](http://kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets)





# KELLY CLUB JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ST MARGARETS  
AT 83 ST ALBANS ROAD EAST GEELONG,

Page 2 of 3

## WEEK 3

Mon 13 Jan		<b>A MAGICAL DISNEY ADVENTURE</b> Join us for a magical day filled with fun activities featuring your favorite Disney characters! Live out your Disney Princess dreams or be a hero like Hercules—there's adventure for everyone! It's a day of magic, imagination, and unforgettable fun!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Tues 14 Jan		<b>INFLATABLE WORLD</b> Join St. Margaret's and other awesome services for a day of bouncing fun at Inflatable World! Enjoy hours of jumping, sliding, and playing on giant inflatables. It's going to be an action-packed adventure you won't want to miss!	FULL FEE \$110 AFTER MAX CCS* \$11
Wed 15 Jan		<b>THE AMAZING RACE</b> Based on the hit TV show, join the Kelly Club Amazing Race! Take on fun challenges, race against the clock, and make it to the finish line for an unforgettable adventure. Who will conquer the race and claim the ultimate prize? Let the challenge begin!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Thur 16 Jan		<b>THE WIZARDING ACADEMY</b> Cast a magical spell and arrive at Hogwarts Kelly Club! Find out which house you're in with the Sorting Hat, then get ready to become the best wizard or witch you can be. It's time for magic, fun, and a magical adventure at Hogwarts!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Fri 17 Jan		<b>NERF BATTLE</b> Join us for an epic Nerf Battle at St. Margaret's! Get ready to run, jump, and dodge as you face off in an action-packed battle against your friends. It's time to gear up, aim, and have a blast—let the Nerf war begin!	FULL FEE \$110 AFTER MAX CCS* \$10

Contact: Lily Davis Email: [stmargarets@kellyclub.com.au](mailto:stmargarets@kellyclub.com.au) Phone: 0422 775 712

Further information: [www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info](http://www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info)

\*Childcare subsidy (CCS) may apply. Please refer to Services Australia Childcare Subsidy for eligibility and entitlement.

## WEEK 4

Mon 20 Jan		<b>EXCURSION - WERRIBEE ZOO</b> Join us for a wild day at Werribee Zoo, where you'll explore incredible animals, embark on a thrilling safari adventure, and dive into exciting activities all day long! Get up close to nature, learn about fascinating creatures, and make unforgettable memories with hands-on fun.	FULL FEE \$110 AFTER MAX CCS* \$11
Tues 21 Jan		<b>WILD SAFARI EXPLORATION</b> Join us for an unforgettable Safari Adventure as we explore the wild, spotting incredible animals and discovering the wonders of the African savanna! Get ready to create your very own animal-themed crafts to take home, and let your imagination run wild with fun, hands-on activities.	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Wed 22 Jan		<b>SENSORY OVERLOAD</b> Get ready for a day full of ooey-gooey slime, squishy sensory activities, and bubbly adventures! The messier, the better—so bring your creativity and prepare to dive into colorful, squishy, and slippery fun all day long! It's hands-on, messy, and totally awesome—let's get our hands dirty and have a blast!	FULL FEE \$100 AFTER MAX CCS* \$10
Thur 23 Jan		<b>CARNIVAL DAY</b> Roll up, roll up for a thrilling day at the carnival! Enjoy exciting games, fun rides, and colorful crafts, all packed into one action-packed day. Get ready for laughter, prizes, and a whole lot of carnival magic!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Fri 24 Jan		<b>AUSTRALIA DAY</b> Let's celebrate Australia Day in style! Join us for a fun-filled day with Aussie games, delicious treats, and even a gumball throwing competition! It's time for a true-blue celebration you won't forget!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7

## ENROL NOW AT

[kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets](http://kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets)



CCS PROGRAM SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!  
\*Conditions apply



# KELLY CLUB JANUARY 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ST MARGARETS  
AT 83 ST ALBANS ROAD EAST GEELONG, KC HP FULL ...

Page 3 of 3

## WEEK 5

Mon 27 Jan	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	<b>AUSTRALIA DAY</b> Happy Australia day!	FULL FEE AFTER MAX CCS*
Tues 28 Jan		<b>ADVENTURE PARK</b> Join us for an action-packed day at Adventure Park! Get ready for thrilling rides, water fun, and exciting activities all day long. It's the perfect place for non-stop adventure and unforgettable memories!	FULL FEE \$110 AFTER MAX CCS* \$11
Wed 29 Jan		<b>COOK, CREATE, CONQUER</b> We're sending the school holidays off in style with exciting games, colorful face painting, and big goodbye waves to all the new friends we've made! It's the perfect way to wrap up an unforgettable holiday full of fun and laughter!	FULL FEE \$70 AFTER MAX CCS* \$7
Thur 30 Jan	<b>SCHOOL DAY</b>	<b>SCHOOL DAY</b>	FULL FEE AFTER MAX CCS*
Fri 31 Jan	<b>SCHOOL DAY</b>	<b>SCHOOL DAY</b>	FULL FEE AFTER MAX CCS*

Contact: Lily Davis Email: [stmargarets@kellyclub.com.au](mailto:stmargarets@kellyclub.com.au) Phone: 0422 775 712

Further information: [www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info](http://www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info)

\*Childcare subsidy (CCS) may apply. Please refer to Services Australia Childcare Subsidy for eligibility and entitlement.

## HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE HOLIDAYS WITH US!



BOOK NOW FOR MORE FUN AT OUR BEFORE- AND AFTER-SCHOOL CARE. SEE YOU THERE!

## ENROL NOW AT

[kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets](http://kellyclub.com.au/stmargarets)





# SLOW



As we work together to ensure the safety of all students and families at our school, we kindly ask that you slow down when driving in the rear carpark.

We've noticed that some drivers are rushing through, and this creates potential hazards for children, staff, and other vehicles. Please remember:

- **Speed Limit:** 10 km/h (walking speed)
- **Be aware of pedestrians:** Always watch out for students.
- **Stay patient:** Allow enough time to park safely and exit the area without rushing.
- **Follow all signage:** Obey the marked traffic flow to keep things moving smoothly.

The safety of our school community is our top priority, and we appreciate your help in creating a safe environment for everyone. Let's work together to ensure our students stay safe and secure as they arrive and depart from school.

Thank you for your cooperation.



THOMSON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

# FREE JUNIOR FOOTBALL

SEASON  
2025

TRAINING ON  
THURSDAYS

5PM - 6PM

KITCHEN  
OPEN FOR  
MEALS  
AFTER  
TRAINING

ALL COME AND TRY NIGHTS & TRAINING  
WILL BE HELD AT

## TOWN & COUNTRY PIZZA OVAL

GODFREY ST THOMSON



Junior's Group



2025 Registration

DATES TO BE CONFIRMED FOR 2025  
COME AND TRY NIGHTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

RACHEL LUCAS - 0414406861

JUNIOR COORDINATOR

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ST MARY'S PARISH COMMUNITY

# Christmas Carols

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 8**



- Christmas Gift Stall
- Treats & Cake Stall
- Free Face Painting
- Free BBQ Sausage Sizzle Lunch
- Raffle \$1 per ticket
- Christmas Karaoke & Performances

## **ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**Where? Hibernian Hall & Pioneer Room @ (Parish Centre) 150 Yarra St  
12.00pm (noon) – 3.00pm.**

***Karaoke Carols & Performances start at 12.30pm***

Please register prior to the date using this link to the form

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeDS0KAH1u875rTpZ1qUOtCjOHPpsa\\_cDoF4YemdNx-HeBKBQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeDS0KAH1u875rTpZ1qUOtCjOHPpsa_cDoF4YemdNx-HeBKBQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0)

(Entry for the Karaoke/ Performance is free)

Cabaret style table seating in Pioneer Room for audience.  
Free Tea/ Coffee for patrons, and soft drinks @ \$1.00 per can

**ALL ARE WELCOME**