

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term One, Week 2
February 3rd, 2025
#2

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to see everyone back at school, eager to reconnect with friends and teachers after the break. We look forward to an exciting and productive Term 1!



Our first Assembly of the year will be held this Friday, February 7th, at **9:15am** in the Church. This special occasion will include the presentation of student leadership badges for 2025. We warmly invite families and friends to join us in celebrating our student leaders as they take on these important roles.

Last week, you would have received a letter outlining our home reading expectations for 2025. At St Margaret's, we strongly believe in the partnership between home and school, particularly in fostering a love for reading. Home reading is an essential part of literacy development, helping children build fluency, comprehension, and a deeper understanding of language. It also encourages positive reading habits and supports classroom learning. We appreciate your support in ensuring students engage in regular reading at home, as it plays a vital role in their academic growth.

In Week 3, on Monday February 12th, we will be launching a fitness club on Mondays and Wednesdays for our Year 3-6 students. This initiative is designed to prepare students for upcoming cross-country and athletics events while also promoting general fitness and well-being. Two staff members will meet participating students at the back gate at 8:40 am and supervise them until the 9:00 am bell. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to improve their fitness while having fun with their peers.

A friendly reminder that school supervision begins at 8:40 am. For the safety and well-being of all students, we ask that children do not arrive before this time. Providing appropriate supervision is a key aspect of our commitment to child safety. As part of our Child Safe Standards, we ensure that students are in a secure and well-monitored environment at all times. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe school setting.

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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.

Leadership and Management News

Please stay up to date with all school events by regularly checking the newsletter, particularly the calendar, as details may change throughout the term. If you need to contact your child's classroom teacher, please do so via email rather than through SeeSaw. The purpose of SeeSaw is to showcase students' work in the classroom, providing an online portfolio of their learning. It also serves as a platform for reporting progress in Inquiry and Religious Education lessons. Teachers will respond to emails within 48 hours.

We look forward to a fantastic term ahead and thank you for your ongoing support.

Susan Perks

Year of Jubilee 2025



This year marks a truly special milestone—a Year of Jubilee! It is a time to reflect on the journey we have traveled, celebrate the achievements of our students and families, and embrace the promise of new beginnings. As we step into this remarkable year, we are reminded of the significance of jubilee as a season of renewal, joy, and community.

For our students, this year is an opportunity to grow, explore their passions, and recognise how far they have come in their educational journey. Every challenge they have faced, every lesson learned, and every moment of triumph has brought them closer to their goals. Their resilience and determination continue to inspire us all.

For our parents and families, the Year of Jubilee is a chance to celebrate your unwavering support and dedication. You have been the foundation of your children's success, nurturing their dreams and guiding them with love and patience. This year is a time to pause and take pride in the incredible role you play in shaping their futures.

Together, we will honor this year by fostering a spirit of gratitude and togetherness. Throughout the coming months, we will host events, activities, and initiatives that highlight the joy of learning and the strength of our school community. From student showcases to family gatherings, this will be a year to remember.

Let us embrace this Year of Jubilee with open hearts, boundless enthusiasm, and a commitment to making it meaningful for everyone. Here's to a year filled with celebration, growth, and endless possibilities!

St Margaret's Primary School



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Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term One

February

Wednesday, February 5 th	Prep Testing Day
Friday, February 7 th	Assembly Yr 6 Leaders 9.15am
	Presentation of Badges for student leadership
Wednesday, February 12 th	P&F Annual General Meeting 7pm in the staff room
	Prep Testing Day
Tuesday, February 18 th	School Board 7pm
Wednesday, February 19 th	Prep Testing Day
Friday, February 21 st	Assembly Yr 5/6 9.15am
Saturday, February 22 nd	Sacramental Enrolment Mass 6pm
Sunday, February 23 rd	Sacramental Enrolment Masses 7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am
Monday, February 24 th	Confirmation Preparation Day 9:15 - 3:20
	Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45-6pm
Tuesday, February 25 th	Parent Teacher Interviews 2.00-6pm
Wednesday, February 26 th	Prep Testing Day

March

Saturday, March 1 st	Sacramental Enrolment Mass 6pm
Sunday, March 2 nd	Sacramental Enrolment Masses 7.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am
Monday, March 3 rd	2026 School Enrolments open
Tuesday, March 4 th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake races 10:15am
Wednesday, March 5 th	Prep Testing
Wednesday, March 5 th	Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15-10am (time TBC)
Wednesday, March 5th	District T-Ball @ Grinter Reserve
Wednesday, March 5th	District Soccer @ Howards Glover Reserve
Friday, March 7 th	Assembly Yr 3/4 9.15am
Monday, March 10th	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday, March 11th	School Closure Day - Staff PL
Tuesday, March 11th	Division Swimming
Wednesday, March 12 th	Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm at St Mary's Basilica
Friday, March 14 th	P&F Barefoot Bowls TBC
Monday, March 17 th -21 st	Catholic Education Week - Year of Jubilee
Monday, March 17 th -21 st	Smile Point School Dental Visits TBC
Tuesday, March 18 th	St Patrick's Day Liturgy - Yr 3-6 students 2.30pm
Wednesday, March 19 th	Pilgrims of Hope Geelong schools - selected student leaders
Friday, March 21 st	Schools' Mass St Patrick's Melbourne - selected students
Tuesday, March 25 th	School Board 7pm
Wednesday, March 26 th	Student Leadership Conference - selected students
Thursday, March 27 th	School Photos
Friday, March 28 th	Assembly Yr 1/2 9.15am

April

Wednesday, April 2nd	AFL Girls 9s
Thursday, April 3 rd	Whole School Athletics Day
Friday, April 4 th	Assembly PREP 9.15am
	Last day of Term One - 1.30pm dismissal. Casual clothes

Calendar of Events

Term Two

April

Monday, April 21st
Tuesday, April 22nd
Friday, April 25th

Easter Monday public holiday
Term Two begins
ANZAC DAY public holiday

May

Tuesday, May 6th

School Board 7pm

June

Monday, June 9th
Tuesday, June 10th
Tuesday, June 24th

King's Birthday public holiday
School Closure Day - Staff PL
School Board 7pm

July

Friday, July 4th

Term Two ends - 1.30pm dismissal

Term Three

July

Monday, July 21st
Tuesday, July 22nd

School Closure Day - Staff PL
Students begin Term Three

August

Tuesday, August 5th
Wednesday, August 13th
Sunday, August 31st

School Board 7pm
Emmaus Meal 5.30pm
Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm

September

Tuesday, September 9th
Friday, September 19th

School Board 7pm
Term Three ends. 1.30pm dismissal

Term Four

October

Monday, October 6th
Tuesday, October 7th
Tuesday, October 21st

School Closure Day - Staff PL
Students begin Term Four
School Board 7pm

November

Monday, November 3rd
Tuesday, November 4th
Wed-Fri, Nov 5th-7th
Monday, November 10th
Tuesday, November 11th
Wednesday, November 12th
Thursday, November 20th

School Closure Day
Melbourne Cup Public holiday
Year 5/6 students at Camp Kangarooobie
Year 5/6 only, student free day (TIL staff day)
Remembrance Day
Penance Preparation Family Evening 5.30pm
Sacrament of Penance 12 noon

December

Friday, December 5th
Tuesday, December 9th
Monday, December 15th
Tuesday, December 16th

School Closure Day - Staff PL
School Board 7pm
Year 6 Graduation
End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

Calendar of Events

2025 School Closure Dates (subject to change)

Tuesday, March 11th

Tuesday, June 10th

Monday, July 21st

Monday, October 6th

Monday, November 3rd

Monday, November 10th Year 5/6 only, student free day (TIL staff day)

Friday, December 5th

PLEASE NOTE:

*Assembly time for this year is **9.15am** on the designated Fridays in the Church.*



together in faith



**ST MARGARET'S
TERM 1
RUN CLUB**

MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

8:40 – 8:55AM

BEGINNING 10th FEB

(WEEK 3)

The Importance of 10 Minutes a Day

Did you know that just 10 minutes of reading a day will change your child's life?

While that may seem like a big statement to make, numerous studies have consistently shown that 10 minutes exposure to reading materials each day is all it takes to positively shape your child's future.

And this doesn't just include complicated educational texts—any reading materials, be it comic books, novels, picture books, recipes, magazines or the back of food packets, all count towards your child's daily reading goal.

Reading any of these materials for 10 minutes a day exposes your child to more than 600,000 words in one year—interestingly, that's more than double the word exposure of a child who only reads for 5 minutes or less each day.

How can you ensure that you can comfortably set aside some time each day to help your child reach their reading goal?

We've put together a few reading tips to help:

- Look through Book Club catalogues with your child and talk about the books you would like to read together. Discuss what you think the books might be about.
- Be a reading role model and let your child see you reading for enjoyment, for news and for information in cookbooks, magazines, online etc. This way they see that reading is important for many reasons.
- Assign a place in your home for your family's books to show your child that books are special and deserve an organised storage space. Fill your home with lots of reading materials.
- If space allows, create a special area for your child to dedicate to reading. Make sure your child puts aside phones, tablets and any other devices that may form a distraction.
- Tie books and TV/movies together. For example, read about sea life after watching a nature documentary on the ocean. Or, connect books and experiences together. For example, after a school excursion to the zoo, read books about animals.

"Be a reading role model and let your child see you reading."

ADDING 10 MINUTES OF READING EVERY DAY MATTERS

