

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term One, Week 4
February 17th, 2025
#4

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

It was wonderful to see so many new and familiar faces at our AGM last Wednesday evening. The strong turnout reflected the commitment of our school community and the shared desire to support our students in meaningful ways. Thank you to everyone who attended, contributed ideas, and showed enthusiasm for the year ahead. Your presence makes a real difference, and we look forward to working together to create a positive and enriching environment for our students.

We take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to Bethany, who has led our P&F with dedication and passion. As she steps down from her role as president, we acknowledge the incredible contribution she has made to our school. Her leadership, vision, and countless hours of service have left a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for all she has done. While we did not elect a new president at this meeting, we are encouraged by the number of members who have stepped up to take on planning and organising roles for the many exciting events ahead. This collective effort will ensure that we continue to provide wonderful opportunities for our students and families.

Further details about upcoming events will be shared soon, along with ways you can get involved. If you are interested in taking on the role of P&F president for 2025, please don't hesitate to reach out—we would love to hear from you. We also encourage new prep families to consider joining us. Being part of the P&F is a fantastic way to connect with other parents, contribute to the school, and be involved in events that bring our community together.

The beach picnic last Thursday proved to be a fantastic social gathering and a great opportunity for families to meet and connect. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the relaxed atmosphere, sharing laughter, and building friendships despite the rain! This event has become a cherished tradition in our school community, marking the start of the school year in a way that brings everyone together.

We also came together for our Beginning of the Year Mass, celebrated by Father Sijeesh. It was a special occasion, and it was heartwarming to see our students becoming more familiar with the expectations and routines of Mass. Many confidently took on roles in reading and leading prayers, demonstrating both their growing faith and their willingness to contribute to our school's spiritual life. Thank you to the families who joined us for this meaningful celebration—it is always a privilege to share these moments as a community.

For those children wishing to receive a sacrament this year, please remember that it is compulsory to attend one of the enrolment Masses. The times and dates for these are listed in the calendar of this newsletter. Attending an enrolment Mass is an important first step in your child's sacramental journey, symbolizing their commitment—along with their family's—in continuing their faith development.

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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

If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled enrolment Masses, please speak with Joel Kearney, who will arrange an alternative Mass time with Father Jim. We appreciate your support in ensuring that every child preparing for a sacrament this year begins this journey with the necessary foundation.

We encourage all parents to take the time to book a Parent-Teacher Interview or PSG meeting. These meetings are for **parents only** and are an essential part of the handover process at the beginning of the school year. They provide an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, goals, and any support they may need.

Tickets for our upcoming **Barefoot Bowls** event are now available on Flexischools. This promises to be a fantastic social event for our community, and we would love to see as many families as possible joining us. If you need any assistance with purchasing tickets, please see the office staff, who will be happy to help. We look forward to an evening of fun, connection, and friendly competition!

A special congratulations to our 2024 recipient of the Richard Marles Leadership Award, Fajr Kamran, who recently attended the Young Leaders Day with Richard Marles. This was a valuable experience where Fajr explored her role as a leader, reflected on what leadership means to her, and considered those who have influenced her own journey. It is always inspiring to hear about the achievements of our past students, and we are incredibly proud of Fajr for embracing this opportunity and continuing to grow as a leader.



Have a great week!

Susan Perks

A Moment's Reflection

I reflect for a moment on God's presence around me and in me.

Creator of the universe, the sun and the moon, the earth,
every molecule, every atom, everything that is:

God is in every beat of my heart. God is with me, now.

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 One

February

Tuesday, February 18 th	School Board 7pm
Wednesday, February 19 th	Prep Testing Day
Thursday, February 20 th	Year 5/6 Excursion
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
	Confirmation candidates attend mass and Bishop's visit at St. Mary's Basilica
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 School tours 9.30am & 4pm
Tuesday, March 4 th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake races 10:15am
Wednesday, March 5 th	Prep Testing
	Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15-10am (time TBC)
	District T-Ball @ Grinter Reserve
	District Soccer @ Howards Glover Reserve
	P & F Meeting 7pm
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 11 th	Division Swimming
Wednesday, March 12 th	Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm at St Mary's Basilica
	Prep Photo for Geelong Advertiser
Friday, March 14 th	P&F Barefoot Bowls
	School tours 9.30am & 12noon
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
Tuesday, March 25th	SEDA sports sessions for Years One to Six
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
Friday, March 28th	Cross Country
Monday, March 31st	School tour 10am

April

Tuesday, April 1st	SEDA sports sessions for Years One to Six
Wednesday, April 2 nd	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
Wednesday, May 21st

School Board 7pm
National Simultaneous Storytime 12noon

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

School Community News

Sports Academy Program

We are excited to share that we will be launching a new initiative at St. Margarets, the **Sports Academy** program. This program will provide an extra intense P.E. session each week for students in Years 3/4 and 5/6, offering them an opportunity to develop their skills and passion for sport. All students will have the opportunity to participate in at least one sport over the course of the year!

Key Details:

- **Group Size:** 10-15 students per session.
- **Sessions:** Held on **Tuesdays for 5/6 students and Wednesdays for 3/4 students during the last session of the day.**
- **Duration:** Each program will typically run for **4-5 weeks.**
- **Student Selection:** Most students will have the opportunity to participate in two sessions across the year.

St Margaret's Primary Sports Academy Program 2025

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																		
Grade 3/4 Wednesday	AFL									Olympics									Tennis									Basketball									Soccer									Golf									Cricket									Basketball								
Grade 5/6 Tuesday	Girls Soccer									Boys Soccer									Netball									Basketball									Basketball									Golf									Cricket									Tennis								



Come and See
OPEN DAYS 2025

Wednesday 12, Friday 14, Friday 21 March 2025

Multiple Information and Tour Sessions

Bookings are essential and can be made online from Monday 20 January 2025

clonard.vic.edu.au

Tours can be scheduled outside of Open Days by contacting Clonard College on 5278 2155 and making a booking with the Registrar.



Clonard College is a Kildare Education Ministries Catholic School in the Brigantine Tradition





83 St Albans Road
East Geelong 3219



2026 Enrolment

St. Margaret's Primary School. Living our Catholic faith, engaging passionately in learning, connecting with and shaping our world.

It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome you to St Margaret's Primary School. We are a Catholic co-educational primary school in East Geelong, Victoria with approximately 240 children from Prep to Year 6. Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to sharing their passion for learning, helping our students to reach their full academic potential, develop their Catholic identity and acquire social responsibility. Our goal is to support all children in a nurturing environment that promotes academic excellence and a commitment to service.

TOUR DATES:

MONDAY MARCH 3rd 9.30AM & 4.00PM

FRIDAY MARCH 14TH 9.30AM & 12PM

MONDAY MARCH 10AM

Applications are open now and close May 2nd

To book a tour contact the school directly on (03)5229 7453





St Margaret's P&F
BAREFOOT
BOWLS NIGHT

EASTERN PARK
BOWLING CLUB

51 GARDEN STREET, EAST GEELONG

***Drinks at bar prices.**

***Amazing Raffles, Prizes & Wine Wall!**

FRI 14
MARCH

6.30PM

TICKETS VIA
OUR FLEXI
SCHOOL
APP

\$15

PER HEAD FOR
BOWLING & BBQ

BOOK A



TOUR & INFORMATION SESSION

- MONDAY 17 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- TUESDAY 18 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12:30 PM
- WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12:30 PM
- WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- THURSDAY 20 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12:30 PM

**YEAR 7 2026 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN.
ENROLMENTS CLOSE FRIDAY 9 MAY 2025.**



BOOK A TOUR ONLINE NOW

LEARNING TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Discover Iona College - March Tour & Information Sessions

Iona College warmly invites all prospective families to join us for our annual March Tour and Information Sessions. These sessions provide an opportunity to hear from our Principal, Mr Damian McKew, explore Iona, learn about our programs and meet our passionate staff.

The tours are student-led, giving families the opportunity to ask questions and hear directly from our students about life at Iona.

Bookings for the Tour and Information Sessions are now open. Secure your spot online via this link: <https://iona.vic.edu.au/tour-and-information-session/>

Iona College Year 7 2026 Enrolments Now Open

Enrolments for Year 7 2026 are now open! Applications can be submitted online via the following link: <https://iona.vic.edu.au/enrolment-form/>

Enrolments close on Friday 9 May 2025.



GEELONG
HIGH SCHOOL



Wednesday 12th March 2025

INFORMATION EVENING

Join us to experience all that **Geelong High School** has to offer our prospective Year 7 students.

Venue: C. A. Love Hall

Session 1 - 4:30pm

Session 2 - 5:30pm

Session 3 - 6:30pm

Sessions will be followed by tours of the school.

2026 ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAM

Applications Now Open

Geelong High School's Accelerated Learning Program is a great opportunity for Grade 6 students who are looking for extra challenge in Years 7-9.

How Do I Apply?

In 2025, Grade 6 students looking to be accepted into the GHS Accelerated Learning Program should apply either in the 'Round 1' or 'Round 2' cycle of applications. For further information and details on how to apply, please see our website.

School Tours - March & April

School tours will run in addition to our information evening throughout March and April. Available on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:30am. Please contact the school to book.

385 Ryrie Street, East Geelong, Victoria 3219

E geelong.hs@education.vic.gov.au P (03) 5225 4100 geelonghigh.vic.edu.au