

NEWSLETTER



St Margaret's
Primary School

Term One, Week 7
March 7th, 2025
#7

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Shrove Tuesday was once again a great success, bringing our school community together for a beloved annual tradition. Students thoroughly enjoyed the delicious pancakes, and we are so grateful to our dedicated Parents & Friends (P&F) for organizing this event. A massive thank you to the parents who generously gave their time to prepare and serve pancakes on the day—it wouldn't have been possible without your support. Events like these highlight the strong sense of community we cherish at St Margaret's.

Following this, our school came together for the Ash Wednesday liturgy, which was well attended by our families. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a significant time in the Catholic calendar that calls us to reflection, prayer, and renewal. It was a special and reverent occasion, reminding us of the importance of preparing our hearts for Easter. Our sincere thanks to Father Sejeesh for guiding us in this meaningful liturgy and leading our community in prayer. We are grateful for his ongoing spiritual leadership and support. Our students will gather each Friday after recess for a Lenten Reflection guided by our Religious Education and 2025 School Leaders.

We hope everyone had a wonderful long weekend. While students enjoyed a well-earned break, our staff were engaged in continued professional learning focused on the science of learning and the MACS 2030 vision. These sessions provided valuable insights into evidence-based teaching practices and the future direction of Catholic education, ensuring we continue to implement meaningful change at St Margaret's to enhance student learning outcomes. Investing in professional development strengthens our commitment to delivering the best possible education for our students.

This Friday, we are looking forward to another fantastic community event—Barefoot Bowls, organized by our P&F. This promises to be a fun and relaxed evening where parents can come together, enjoy some friendly competition, and connect outside the school environment. Whether you're an experienced bowler or just giving it a go for the first time, it promises to be a great night for all. We are also requesting donations for our Wine Wall and raffle. Please drop donations to the front office. We encourage you to come along and be part of the event.

Catholic Education Week is fast approaching, and we are excited about the activities planned to celebrate this special occasion, particularly as we acknowledge the Year of Jubilee. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the rich history and values of Catholic education while coming together as a school to celebrate our shared mission. More details about the upcoming events will be shared soon, and we look forward to seeing our students, staff, and families participating.

...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 Prep Reading Information Session will be held at 3:30pm on Monday, March 17th. This session is an essential opportunity to understand the importance of a consistent approach between home and school when it comes to early reading development. We encourage all Prep parents to attend, as well as any other families who may be interested. Supporting children in their reading journey from an early stage is crucial, and we will be providing practical strategies to help foster a love of reading at home.

A reminder that Monday is a public holiday and Tuesday is a student free day.

Staff will be offsite with the other Catholic Schools engaging in professional learning around the MACS 2030 Vision for Instruction.

We are truly fortunate to be part of such a vibrant and engaged school community, where events like these bring us together to learn, celebrate, and connect. Thank you to all who contribute to making St Margaret's such a wonderful place.

Wishing everyone a fantastic rest of the week!

Susan Perks



Read to me!

Read to me riddles and read to me rhymes.
Read to me stories of magical times.
Read to me tales about castles and kings.
Read to me stories of fabulous things.
Read to me pirates and read to me knights.
Read to me dragons and dragon book fights.
Read to me spaceships and cowboys and then
When you are finished, please read them again!

-Jane Yolen

**Reading
Information
Session**

**Monday,
March 17th
3:30pm**



Calendar of Events

(new items in bold)

Term One

March

Monday, March 10th

Tuesday, March 11th

Wednesday, March 12th

Wed, March 12th-20th

Thursday, March 13th

Friday, March 14th

Monday, March 17th

Monday, March 17th-21st

Tuesday, March 18th

Wednesday, March 19th

Friday, March 21st

Tuesday, March 25th

Wednesday, March 26th

Thursday, March 27th

Friday, March 28th

Monday, March 31st

Labour Day Public Holiday

School Closure Day - Staff PL

Division Swimming

Sacrament of Confirmation - 5pm at St Mary's Basilica

Prep Photo for Geelong Advertiser

NAPLAN sessions for students in Years 3 & 5

Bookclub Issue 2 orders due

P&F Barefoot Bowls

School tours - 9.30am & 12noon

5/6 Surfing excursion

Prep Information Session: Reading at Home - 3.30pm

Smile Point School Dental Visits

Catholic Education Week - Year of Jubilee

St Patrick's Day Liturgy - Yr 3-6 students 2.30pm

Pilgrims of Hope Geelong schools - selected student leaders

Schools' Mass St Patrick's Melbourne - selected students

School Board - 7pm

SEDA sports sessions for Years One to Six

Student Leadership Conference - selected students

School Photos

Assembly Yr 1/2 - 9.15am

Cross Country

Parents & Friends Special Lunch

Project Compassion boxes due back to the office

School tour - 10am

April

Tuesday, April 1st

Wednesday, April 2nd

Thursday, April 3rd

Friday, April 4th

SEDA sports sessions for Years One to Six

Coins for Caritas - 2.30pm

P&F - 7pm in the staffroom

AFL Girls 9s

Whole School Athletics Day

Assembly PREP - 9.15am

Last day of Term One - 1.30pm dismissal. Casual clothes

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

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
Tuesday, May 13th
Wednesday, May 21st

School Board 7pm
P-2 Incursion: Responsible Pet Education
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 Kangarooie
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

Education in Faith News

Project Compassion



As we embrace the season of Lent, *a time of reflection, sacrifice and giving*, we invite you to join us in this special initiative that aligns with the spirit of the season. This year, we are reaching out to you, our wonderful parents, to get actively involved with Project Compassion!

Throughout Project Compassion, the students will get to know the stories of Toefuata'iga, Lam and Irene.

Your children will be actively participating in Project Compassion at school to make a significant impact on the lives of those less fortunate, and this year, we would like to invite parents to jump on board too! We believe that together, as *students, teachers and parents*, we can help to encourage our kids and amplify their efforts.

By now your child has brought home with them a Project Compassion box for any cash donations.

There is also the option to donate online through this QR code.

To get involved and donate, scan the QR code below:

Compassion boxes need to be returned to your classroom teacher, and online donations finalised by Monday, March 31st.

Complementing the donations from the Project Compassion boxes, each class will also be participating in 'Coins for Caritas' coin drive due to the amazing success of the Year 5/6 cohort last year.

All of the donations will be lined up together to see which class can generate the longest line of coins on Wednesday, April 2nd. This will be happening at 2:30pm and parents are invited to attend.

Regards,
Joel Kearney
Education in Faith Leader



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

School Community News

Smile Patrol School Dental

Say goodbye to the hassle of making dental appointments, taking time off work, and disrupting your schedule just to ensure your child receives dental care. Smile Patrol is coming to **St Margaret's Primary School** so your child will benefit from dental care during school hours. So easy!

*Smile Patrol School Dental will be visiting our school the week of
Monday 17th March, 2025.*

Smile Patrol provides free dental health education to all students. If your child is eligible under the Childcare Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) treatments can be done for free depending on the remaining benefits. If your child is not eligible we will send you an email with an option for a private checkup. But to do this we need your consent.

If you would like more information, please refer to the website: <https://smilepatrol.com.au/school-services/>

To sign up you can visit : <https://smilepatrol.com.au/school-and-childcare-consent-form/>

It's very easy and takes less than 5 mins to complete.

A paper form has been sent home, and either it, or the online consent must be **completed by the deadline March 12th, 2025** (online consent preferable)

For more information please feel free to contact us.

Email: info@smilepatrol.com.au

Thank you for prioritising your child's dental health.

We want to make sure every Victorian child has access to quality dental care.



*Looking for an Easter Gift that's not made of chocolate?
There's plenty of sweet reading goodness in this issue of
bookclub.*



*Bookclub orders are due on
Thursday March 13th*



THE BEST OF LUCK TO YOU.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Monday 18th March



**GUESS HOW MANY
LOLLIES ARE IN
THE JAR.**



YOU WILL FIND THE JAR OF
LOLLIES AT THE FRONT OFFICE
FROM THE 4TH MARCH

Student of the Week Awards

CLASS	STUDENT	AWARDS – Friday, March 7 th , 2025
Prep PB	Ford Costello	For always demonstrating kindness and respect towards his peers and teachers. Amazing work Ford!
Prep PB	Pia Lekkas	For demonstrating enthusiasm in her learning and trying her best. Keep it up Pia!
Prep SB	Adam Alex	For showing courage and being an excellent role model. We appreciate your kind and caring nature.
Prep SB	Pippa Dooris	For her cheerful and kind nature. You bring great warmth and energy to our class!
1/2 EK	Toby Bennett	For demonstrating responsibility as a classmate and crafting an excellent, detailed description of Joe's new bedroom during our literacy block.
1/2 EK	Darcy Menheer	For consistently applying yourself across all areas of the curriculum and embracing challenges with determination and enthusiasm.
1/2 JB	Luna Stephenson	For being a proactive learner in all areas of your schooling. Well done Luna!
1/2 JB	Zed Withington	For the way you apply yourself across different learning areas. Well done Zed!
3/4 EC	Claudia Walker	For your go-getter attitude in Maths Explorer - your enthusiasm for problem solving is inspiring.
3/4 EC	Taj Reynolds	For your entertaining narrative writing skills. Keep up the amazing tier 2 vocabulary!
3/4 HM	Giuliano Bucedì	For your dedication to your learning and your terrific Narrative writing piece for Matilda.
3/4 HM	Archer Robinson	For your awesome effort in holding up our school values and helping your clan win more value points.
3/4 LC	Kyrie Lin	For being curious and asking good questions. Kyrie has a fantastic attitude towards learning.
3/4 LC	Jack Geoghegan	For engaging positively in Maths learning and being focused and persistent with the tasks.
3/4 JK-CB	Charlotte Lagana	For developing her independence and using her initiative when choosing learning activities.
3/4 JK-CB	Aiden Coumans	For his positive approach towards his learning.
5/6 DJ-JW	Xavier Marshall	For an amazing start to great 6, keep up the brilliant work!
5/6 DJ-JW	Francesca Payne	For always being positive and for being an excellent role model to all students at St. Margarets
5/6 FM	Pearl Foley	For your outstanding effort on your Saint Mary McKillop project. Great work.
5/6 KH	Nuwain De Silva	For an outstanding research project on St James for our inquiry investigation. Well done.
5/6 KH	Daniel Thomas	For an outstanding research project on St Thomas for our inquiry investigation. Well done.
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD	Taha Ammar	For displaying kindness and respect to others.

GRADE 6 VS TEACHERS BASKETBALL GAME.



WHEN : Wednesday the 19th
March

HOW MUCH : \$1 for 2 raffle
tickets or \$2 for 5 raffle tickets.

WHERE: On the junior yard at
lunch

PRIZE: Game Ball

- The money goes towards new
sports equipment.



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





***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**