St. Margaret Mary's School

Term 3 Week 9 **Thursday 17th September 2020**

SCHOOL DIARY DATES

Friday 18th September
No *Community Prayer*
Mid-Autumn Festival
Monday 21st September
Choir—Music Festival Filming
Friday 25th September
Assembly (Year 1) 9.00am
Class Mass Yr 3/4
3pm dismissal
Monday 12th October
Beginning of Term 4
Thursday 22nd October
Sports Day
Friday 23rd October
School closure day
- OSHC available
16th - 18th November
5/6 Camp @ Victor Harbor

SCHOOL TIMES

Eldon St Gates open 8:20am

Front Office	8:30am - 3:45 pm
Supervision	8:30am - 3:20 pm
Classes	8:45am - 3:00 pm

PRESCHOOL

Full Day Sessions	8:45am - 2:45pm
Wednesdays	
Morning Session	8:45am - 11:45am
Afternoon Session	12:15pm - 3:15pm

UNIFORM SHOP

Tuesday	2:30pm - 3:30pm
Friday	8:30am - 10:00am

OSHC

Phone	1300 105 343
Morning Session	6:30am - 8:30am
Afternoon Session	3:00pm - 6:15pm

STUDENT ABSENTEES

Phone: **8245 5855**
(answering service call anytime)
Email:
absent@smms.catholic.edu.au
SMS: **0407 682 137**

Dear Parents and Carers, — FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent Survey

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have completed our feedback survey. There is still time to add your valuable feedback. All responses are confidential and you cannot be identified from participating.

Please go to www.NSIPartnerships.com.au and use the code: SMMPACS

Fee Reduction

This week at our School Board meeting we decided on our reduced school fees for every child for 2021. Reducing our school fees for all families is a part of the Catholic Education Strategy to make Catholic Education more affordable.

We will publish our full reduced fee schedule early next term – this will include sibling discount and process for low-income fees (School Card). At St Margaret Mary's School we are very fortunate to be able to work closely with families to ensure every child has access to a quality Catholic education.

Class Placements

Our staff are beginning to commence class placements for 2021. Each year teachers spend a great deal of time looking at class placements for the following year. This process takes many things into account. First and foremost, we take into consideration the learning needs of *all students*. We aim to ensure classes are 'balanced', by also taking into consideration a balance of gender, progress and levels of children's learning, children with specific needs (social/emotional, learning and physical), relationships and family considerations.

At this time of the year, we have not finalised staffing and class structures, and we have teachers who will be changing year levels. *Requests for specific teachers are not a part of our process,* as classes are determined before teachers are allocated to that class or year level.

If there is a consideration that you feel we need to be made aware of, please email me before **Friday 25th September** (kelly.campbell@smms.catholic.edu.au).

Once the process is finished, it is extremely difficult to consider further input from parents because the movement of one child will affect other children in the class and the balance that we work hard to achieve. In previous years, if you have put something in writing, please email me again, if you would still like this to be considered.

Being a part of St Margaret Mary's School learning community gives children an opportunity to meet and learn with many different people. We always encourage children's resilience in expanding friendships and developing skills to work and learn with many different people (children and adults). This is an essential skill for life-long learning and resilience.

Your child's best support may be someone they have not yet met!

Farewell to Di Childs

Di Childs has been our student counsellor at St Margaret Mary's for many years and she recently decided to retire. We thank Di for her many years of compassion, gentleness, wonderful listening and wisdom. She will be missed by many children and all in our community. We welcomed Debbie Mortimer last week as our new student counsellor. She has already met some our students. Please speak with your child's teacher if you believe your child would benefit from working with Debbie.

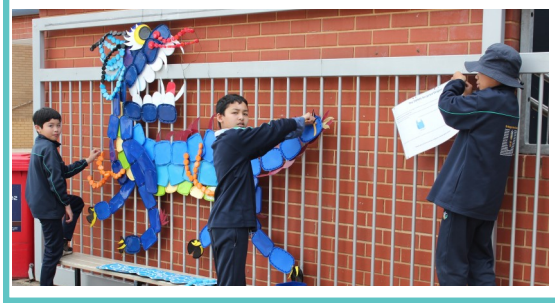
Croydon Park Catholic Parish
Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Lukati
Ph: 8346 0944

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains.
We recognise and respect their cultural heritage,
beliefs and relationship with the land.
We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.
Approved by Kaurna Elder Uncle Lewis O'Brien 2004

Mid-Autumn Festival

We are all really looking forward to our Mid-Autumn Festival tomorrow. As you are aware, we have had to make some changes to the festival this year. But, we are still having the lion dance, fan dance and a treat for all children. This week the children have been busy making lanterns, decorations and learning the story of Uncle Cuoi. Have a look at our wonderful dragon (made from recycled materials) when you are next in the school yard. Thanks to all the staff on the committee.



We look forward to seeing the children in their traditional dress on Friday – or in Autumn colours. Please no soccer tops.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kelly Campbell

Term 3 is almost over and it feels like it has just begun!

The lovely weather has seen the children involved in a number of different activities including excursions, sport carnivals and the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Mid-Autumn Festival 2020

The Mid-Autumn Festival this year has had to be quite different to other years, but it will still have a strong focus on children. The children have been very busy making lanterns, designing posters, making dragons and practising their dancing. This year we have some Year 5/6 students who are doing the fan dance and the lion dance. They have been very independent in organising themselves, practising and sharing their dancing. They have already had a dress rehearsal for the Playgroup and Preschool, which was extremely successful.

We are also very excited that this year our dancers have been invited to perform at Whitefriars School as part of their Mid-Autumn Festival. This is a wonderful example of the collaboration between our two schools and a celebration of the diversity of the Croydon Park Catholic Parish. We know they will be a great hit at Whitefriars next week!

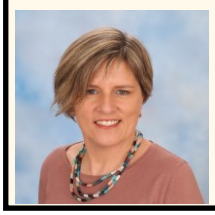
Lion dancing for Playgroup and Preschool

Playgroup

Were you aware that Playgroup has started again? Playgroup is currently being offered on Tuesday mornings from 9.00 am to 10.30 am. Reservations are required as part of the Playgroup COVID Safe Plan.

If you know someone who may be interested in bringing their young children to Playgroup, please ask them to contact the school.

Bubble blowing in Playgroup



Come along to Playgroup for some fun with your little one!

Alicia Boylan
Deputy Principal

We wish the following students who celebrate a birthday in September a very happy and blessed birthday:

Nathan	1VE
Kaiden	5/6LO
Meika	5/6LC
Alena	5/6GG
Cameron	RWB
Praise	RWB
Abrihet	RRB
Piang	3/4MK
Lorenzo	PRE1
Daniel	1VE
Ronan	3/4KD
Harry	FLB
Victoria	FLB
Ellie	1KB
Riley	FLB
Belle	3/4MM
Martin	5/6GG
Tymon	5/6GG
Alexa	RWB
Emily	5/6LO
Rahmah	2AF
Tyson	1KB
Thomas	1KB
Himanshi	5/6GG
Matilda	2AL
Harry	2AF
Iqraab	PRE1
Kayden	5/6GG
Hanna	5/6GG
Taim	3/4MK
Lana	3/4KD
Arin	1VE
Monique	3/4MK
Daniel	1VE
Ky	3/4KD
Amay	2AL
Harry	PRE2
Minh Anh	RWB
Mia	FLB

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CROSSING MONITORS
Term 3 & 4, 2020

ELDON STREET

Wk 10	• Bonnie • Giselle • Lucy
Term 4 Wk 1	• Yana • Ella • Kelly

September: Month of Caring for Creation

Each year during the month of September, the Catholic Church turns it's attention to giving thanks for creation and finding ways to continue to care for the natural earth that we are part of. A simple way to do this as a family is to pause at the beginning of a main meal time and each give thanks for one aspect of how the food has arrived on the table. It may be the water that has fed plants or animals, the farmer who has cared for the crop or parents who have cooked the meal. In this way we can become more aware of where our food comes from and feel a deep sense of gratitude as a result.

Sacramental Program

We look forward to seeing families at our next Information Meeting for First Eucharist on Tuesday 22nd of September at Whitefriars school, beginning at 7pm. The students involved in the program will also have a Workshop day on Wednesday 14th October to consolidate their learning and preparation to celebrate their First Eucharist and Confirmation.

International Day of Peace

Next Monday we commemorate the International Day of Peace. The prayer of St Francis can be a helpful reminder of how we can each be instruments of peace in the world.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

David Hillard
APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission)

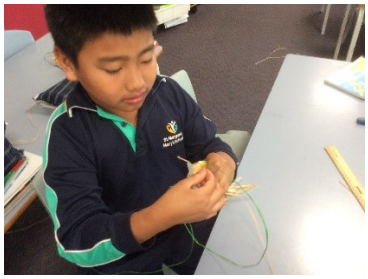
Sports Day

Please note that Sports Day at SA Athletics Stadium is scheduled for Thursday 22nd October. We will be sending a note home shortly.

Weaving Workshop in 3/4MM

Our class is looking at cultures of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, in particular the Kaurna people who are the original inhabitants of the South Australian land reaching from the Flinders Ranges to Victor Harbor. We recently had an Aboriginal weaving workshop with three Aboriginal women. They taught us how to weave a basket using raffia instead of dried reeds. We also used large-holed needles, a relatively modern appliance, as the original inhabitants of thousands of years ago would have used fish bones or small animal bones. We enjoyed the workshop immensely and give thanks for the weavers, Aunty Janice, Aunty Lorna and Aunty Di.

The baskets are a work in progress.



Road safety – again!

This is another reminder about some important safety issues around the school.

1. Please DO NOT park across the driveway of our neighbours or in our staff carparks.

2. Please DO NOT do U-Turns near the school drop off and pick up zones. It only takes an extra couple of minutes to drive around the block!

3. Please DO NOT drive on the wrong side of the road just to get past another car to save 1-2 minutes. Yes, this happens frequently! It is extremely dangerous.

Remember that pick up time (especially) is busy for everyone. Consider coming at 3.10pm to avoid the long queue. And, please show respect to other parents, carers, grandparents, children and staff. Our children learn from what they see and hear!

Uniform shop

Rosie and the Uniform Shop have moved to the house next door to the school on Eldon Street.

Uniform Shop Hours are Tuesday 2.30-3.30pm and Friday 8.30-10.00am

Anglo Italiano

Year 1 Students have enjoyed listening to and joining in with a funny story about a parrot. Il Pappagallo likes annoying his family until one day he flies away! The students made their own pappagallo and had fun role playing the story.