



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Three, Week 8
September 7th, 2017

Leadership and Management News

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Confirmation is a significant aspect of our Year Six students' faith and spiritual formation. This sacrament will be celebrated on Thursday, September 14th, and Friday, September 15th, at 5.30 pm. There will also be a Sunday Service on September 17th at 11.00 am. Confirmation empowers us to live by and to know the strength of the Spirit of God within and opens us to know that God is really alive in us.

On the first Pentecost the Holy Spirit confirmed the Apostles. It gave them the power to practise their faith and to preach Christ throughout the known world. Our Confirmation is the official time to accept responsibility for our faith; we are anointed to share more completely in the mission of Jesus; it unites us more firmly to Christ, it strengthens us to be witnesses to Christ in word and action.

Confirmation is not simply a minor event that occurred in our life many years ago. Confirmation makes firm the gifts of the Spirit we first received at Baptism. This new character of Confirmation binds us more closely to Christ and as we become more active in promoting our own lives, we promote Christ through the decisions we make and the way we live our lives. The Holy Spirit is embedded within us as it was in Jesus.

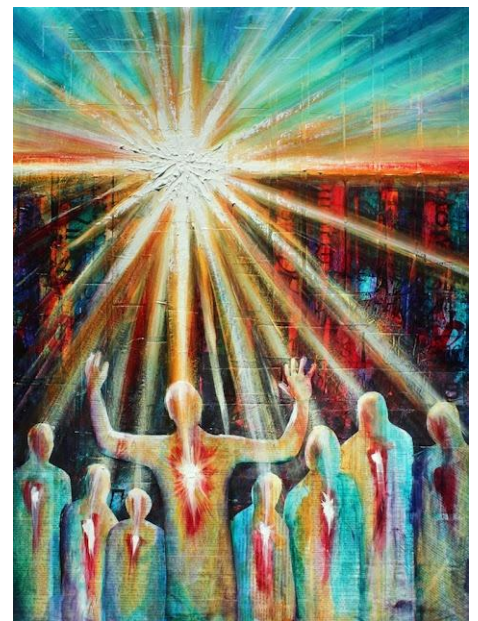
We can't really see the Spirit anymore than we can see the air around us. But we can feel the air, the wind blowing, and we can see its effects as it stirs the limbs of trees and moves loose leaves across the ground. So, too, we can feel the Spirit in our lives as we are moved to love God and others, to care for our family, friends and neighbours, to offer forgiveness genuinely and sincerely whether or not forgiveness is sought.

In our parent role, we have responsibility not only for the physical and intellectual welfare of our children but their spiritual welfare as well. None of us lives in isolation, particularly our children, who yearn for the company of their peers and are subjected to its various influences. Peer influence and the social influence of our materialistic society provide many challenges to our children and the concept of living a Christian lifestyle can be easily over run.

If we are in the habit of calling on the Gifts of the Spirit within us – wisdom, understanding, fortitude, counsel – to assist us in our life's challenges, we can encourage our children to do likewise. Instead of the Holy Spirit being the focus for one day of our life, the Holy Spirit becomes our life companion, always available, never judgemental, always a living act of God's love in our life.

Our children share or have had passed onto them, many of our physical and intellectual attributes; they are united to us in all aspects of their existence. In much the same way they share with us the same Spirit given fully to all of us through Confirmation. This enables us to be linked to our children in body, mind and Spirit.

'May the Spirit who inspired the Apostles to know how to live and teach the message of your Son's Gospel, be our source of inspiration. May the gifts of the Spirit be alive in all aspects of our daily living. Amen.'



Enjoy the rest of the week
Regards Brian

School Community News

School Building Project

The school building project involves the addition of another learning area above the I-Centre. The building project will commence on Monday, September 18th and it is estimated to take eight weeks to complete. I will provide information on school management procedures during the construction period in next week's newsletter.

Insight SRC Parent Opinion Surveys

So far we have many parents (provided with a survey) who haven't returned their Insight SRC Survey to the school. The school relies on the feedback of these surveys in relation to school improvement and the school review process. If you haven't completed the survey, I ask that you give this your urgent attention and return to St Margaret's School no later than Friday, September 8th (tomorrow).

Brian Everett Principal

Spirit of St Margaret Parish Pantry Collection

Many thanks to our school families who have kindly donated to the Spirit of St Margaret Parish Pantry Collection. This final day for donations will be Friday, September 15th.



Parent Teacher Interviews

This term the Year 3-4 and Year 5-6 Interviews will be held on separate dates.

***Years 3-4 September 11th & 13th
Years 5-6 September 18th & 20th***

The Year 3-4 Interviews will be held on Monday, September 11th and Wednesday, September 13th from 4.00 – 6.50 pm. The Year 5-6 Interviews will be held on Monday, September 18th from 4.00 – 6.50 pm and Wednesday, September 20th from 1.00 – 5.00 pm. (Please note earlier starting time.)

Each interview will have a ten minute duration.

It is an expectation that a parent attends the interview, which will allow time for teachers to provide insights and information regarding your child's progress.

To make an interview appointment please log into:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

***Year 3-4 parents enter the code **5sgxq**
Year 5-6 parents enter the code **mxpkm*****

Once you have entered the applicable code, enter the required details and select the time you would like.

Year Prep - 2 teachers are available for interviews on Wednesdays after school. Parents need to schedule an interview time by contacting Anne at the school office or by e-mailing the class teachers.

SPRING TIME AT ST MARGARET'S!

Please be aware that we've had some reported cases of Chicken Pox and Slap Cheek amongst students recently. As these are communicable conditions it's good for everyone to be on the lookout. Please ensure your child still wears a jumper on cold mornings.



This information has been sourced from Kids Matter. KidsMatter provides families with a range of information sheets to help them support children’s mental health and wellbeing, and to recognise if and when professional help is needed. This article outlines the importance of setting rules and limits for children in order to guide their behaviour. Other similar articles can be accessed by Googling KidsMatter – information sheets.

RULES AND LIMITS ARE IMPORTANT FOR GUIDING BEHAVIOUR

Children need to know what you expect of them in order to behave appropriately. This does not mean giving children lots of dos and don’ts – having too many rules, or rules that are too complicated, often confuse children. It is often helpful to involve children in setting some basic rules. This helps them understand the value of having rules and motivates them to cooperate. For example, you might discuss as a family the sorts of rules that will help you all get on well together. These might include things like talking to each other rather than shouting, asking before borrowing things, putting away games and toys after playing with them, or taking a turn to wash up after dinner. Deciding as a family those things that are most important to you and stating rules positively so that children know what to do rather than simply being told what not to do works best.

SET LIMITS

Set limits for children by giving clear directions for what you expect of them. Providing reasons for the directions you give helps children accept your limits without becoming defensive. It also gives them a basis for understanding what you will expect of them in other similar situations. The following examples show how parents and carers can set limits for children in positive ways.

<i>Kind of limit</i>	<i>Limit stated negatively</i>	<i>Limit stated positively with reasons</i>
Protection from physical harm	Don’t go outside the gate.	Stay in the yard. The street is too busy and you might get hurt.
	Stop poking at your sister.	Be gentle with your baby sister. She is too small for rough play.
Looking after things	Don’t leave your toys lying around.	Pack up now and put your toys away on the shelf so we can be ready to go out.
	Don’t do that here.	Take the ball outside if you want to play with it. Something might get broken if you play with it inside.
Showing respect and care for others	Stop being mean to him.	You need to play in a friendly way. Make sure Fred has a turn too.
	Don’t take her things.	Be sure to ask first before you borrow something from your friend. You would want her to ask before taking your things.

FOLLOWING UP

Providing positive consequences for positive behaviour is very important and effective for encouraging children to comply with rules and expectations. For example:

- When children do what you have asked, be sure to notice it and praise or thank them.
- Expect some lapses, as changing or learning new behaviours takes time. Be prepared to offer reminders without nagging.
- Checklists and reward charts can be useful for keeping track of positive behaviour and motivating children to complete assigned tasks.
- If children repeatedly ignore your clear and reasonable instructions, logical consequences may be necessary. Logical consequences are directed at stopping the undesired behaviour rather than punishing the child. Examples include withdrawal from the situation (quiet time) – use when behaviour is unsafe or disruptive.

School Community News

Parents and Friends' Association

The next meeting of the Parents and Friends' will be held **TOMORROW** at 9.00 am.

The school's ongoing support to the upcoming St Mary's Derby Day Fete will be an important agenda item. We will be holding the meeting at 9.00 am to further encourage parent attendance for those who find it more difficult to be present at evening meetings.

St Mary's Derby Day Fete

Sat November 4th, 2017

This is a major fundraiser for our Parish & School. Many hands make light work - we would appreciate all families to get involved!

matific

For the rest of this term and beginning of next we are trialling Matific, an award-winning maths program designed to make learning maths fun, engaging and interactive.

Teachers are using Matific to support their teaching in the classroom. We also encourage you to use Matific at home with your child using the login details provided by their teacher.

We are looking at continuing the program in 2018 so would be keen to hear your feedback. Please provide this to your class teacher if you get the chance.

To gain access to the program at home, there is a Matific app that you can download or you can go online at www.matific.com.au

Upcoming Dates

September

- 8th Parents and Friends meeting 9.00am
- 8th Special lunch
- 8th Crazy hair / casual clothes
- 8th Insight SRC Parent Opinion Surveys due in
- 11th Parent – teacher interviews Gr 3/4
- 13th Parent – teacher interviews Gr 3/4
- 15th Assembly 1/2 presenting
- 15th Beauty and the Beast excursion Gr 3/4
- 18th Parent – teacher interviews Gr 5/6
- 20th Parent – teacher interviews Gr 5/6
- 22nd Final day of term – wear your footy colours!

Crazy Hair Day

A crazy hair / casual clothes day will be held

TOMORROW



Gold coin donation

Money raised will go towards student engagement resources: Eg. friendship station, wet day games.

Footy Colours

On the final day of Term 3, students, staff and parents are invited to wear their footy colours. No donation necessary.



I MEANT TO BEHAVE, BUT THERE WERE TOO MANY OTHER OPTIONS!



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