

TRIBUTE TO SR MARION

After eighteen years of faithful service, Sr Marion McDonald rsm has retired from her leadership role of the Merbein Parish Community. In that time she has also been the pastoral leader of our school community, and has become part of the fabric of our school.

On March 30th, 2017 the school community had a Mass and morning tea to farewell Sr Marion. After the Mass we had a ceremony where the school library was formally named the Sr Marion Library in her honour.



Below is the tribute that Mr Michael Brewel, our Religious Education Leader, read out at the Mass.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Primary School has had many influential people come through its doors, but none have had a bigger impact than Sr Marion.

After being the Principal of St Joseph's College from 1993-1997, Sr Marion was appointed the Parish Leader of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Merbein in 1999. At the time of her appointment, the Parish school had just employed its first lay Principal, Mr Des Lowry and over the next fifteen years, they would form a partnership that would shape our school and take it into the future.

During Sr Marion's time at OLSH, the school has gone through many changes, including new buildings, a new playground and basketball court and a new front entrance. She has seen the school gradually grow in numbers over the years and become a place where children are provided with a high quality education that aims at developing the whole child. Sr Marion has worked with a number of staff members, seventy to be exact, over the years and in recent times has worked closely with Mr Chris Brouwers to ensure that OLSH continues to provide the best Catholic education possible.



Sr Marion's constant presence around our school is what we will miss the most. She often enters our classrooms with that beautiful smile on her face and tells the children wonderful stories about God, faith and her own life experiences. She also enjoys coming into the staffroom and chatting with the staff, often inspiring us with stories of her time in education. Oh, and of course she would never miss an opportunity to remind us all of Essendon's performances.

Our school will not be the same without Sr Marion's presence, but we are also thankful that she chose our school and parish to lead for the past eighteen plus years.



Sr Marion with Northern Zone clergy, L-R: Frs Peter Jose, Peter Hudson, Matthew Thomas, Eugene McKinnon, Mick McKinnon, Alex Lim, Paul Mercovich and Jim McKay who met recently for their zone meeting.