



Newsletter

St Michael's Primary School, Blacktown South
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Website: www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au
facebook.com/StMichaelsBlacktownSouth

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Through ongoing efforts to make communication between home and school more accessible we aim to republish procedures and protocols from our Parent Handbook each week.

This week I urge you to revisit the School Uniform section of our handbook. The wearing of our school uniform *"demonstrates a pride in personal appearance, and in our school we ask for your support and co-operation in ensuring that your child wears the correct uniform at all times."* This includes ties and the correct black leather shoes. The School Locker Uniform Shop is open every Monday and Wednesday from 8.00am-10.30am.

If you require access to Second Hand Uniforms the shop is open every Wednesday from 8.30am-9.30am. These items are well mended, washed and hung ready for sale by our Parents and Friends Committee.

We are always looking for donations of good used uniforms. Please drop at the office or at the Second Hand Uniform shop.

Please ensure that all of your child's property is clearly labelled with their name so that if it is lost we can return it as soon as possible.

MID YEAR REPORTS

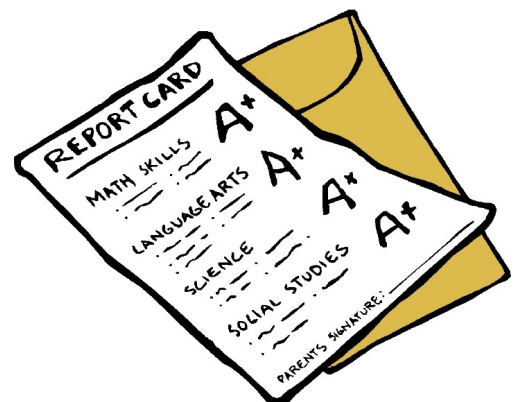
Reports for the first semester of the year will be distributed from Friday 29th June 2018.

As the reports contain confidential information about your child, Reports will be sent home in a sealed envelope addressed to parents.

Kindergarten will receive a report where the level of achievement is reported on using a scale of:

- Working Towards
- Achieving
- Working Beyond

Years 1 to 6 have an A to E reporting system known as The Common Grade Scale.





This is shown below and reports on student achievement:

The Common Grade Scale describes performance at each of five grade levels.

A - The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.

B - The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.

C - The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.

D - The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.

E - The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.

PARKING: Please be reminded that the Staff Car Park is not accessible from 2:30pm- 3:30pm.

This is to ensure the safety of all members of our community. This is a high traffic time for our students and families, many who move through the car park to access footpaths and parking on the street.

It is important when driving near schools we are extra vigilant of young children. There are many toddlers and young children walking around the school so it is important that all adults are obeying the road rules and driving safely.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah O'Rourke

ACTING PRINCIPAL



SCHOOL FEES

School fees are now overdue. If you are experiencing any difficulty or would like to set up a payment plan, please contact Madlin Aboelsaad on 8869 6200.



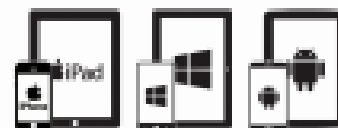
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT



During this time of the year, there are lots of cold and flu symptoms around. We understand that children get sick, especially at this time of the year. However, our attendance data tells us that many children are absent from school regularly, who are not sick. Our goal at St Michael's is to lift our attendance, and reduce our absences, especially those absences that are unexplained. The more your children are at school, the more learning will occur. If your child is absent due to illness please ensure you respond to the SMS that you will receive. You can also send an ABSENTEE NOTE via your phone, tablet or computer using the SKOOLBAG App ... please see details on the next page.



HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE SKOOLBAG APP?



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

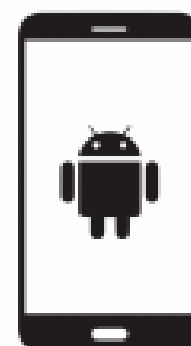
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

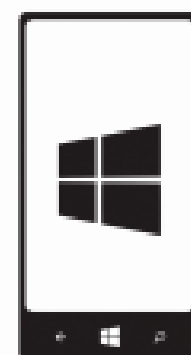


Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.





Over the coming weeks we are making efforts to connect with you if your child has more than 3 days of unexplained absences. You may receive a phone call from your child's teacher or Grade leader. We are here to help, so during this call please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you and your family getting to school more regularly.



Congratulations to our students who received an **Outstanding Achievement Award** at last week's Whole School Assembly:

KC:	KM:	KS:	KO:
Amelia Hadiwidjaja	Christian Jbara	Nhyira Acheampong	Jaxson Stevenson
Luca Totaro	Callie Marsden	Shaniah Rana	Angie Trpcevska
1B:	1E:	1H:	1S:
Estelle Fong	Olivia Layous	Bronte Said	Christina Cantwell
Bryson Debono	Xavier Wong	Eesha Lal	Gian Evangelista
2A:	2C:	2E:	2H:
William Tauro	Maisy Cyreszko	Saleem Asfour	Leonel Martinez
Annabelle Yaghi	Kiyan Aldemir	Maya Hadden-Cruz	Nyidier Mow
3B:	3E:	3O:	3X:
Chelise Fernandez	Aiden O'Connor	Flyn O'Neill	August Cyreszko
Sidhi Oruganti	Emily Ridout	Denise Clavo	Hope Girgis
4B:	4C:	4S:	
Nicole Hathi	Lexus Oiscing	Erica Shein	
Aie Tun Tin Win	Aira Borja	Josephine Dear	
5D:	5E:	5J:	5M:
Jessica Moore	Charlize Arab	Daksh Soni	Hayley Andrews
Sara Lockwood	Julien Del Rosario	Aaliyah Sobhi	Sean Luna
6B:	6P:	6P:	6W:
Charlize Chiha	Ryan Depares	Ronash Alves	Brooke Dudgeon
Samantha Hourany	Michelle Otim	Reese Salman	Brianna Evans



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interview notes are being sent home today. Interviews for classes will take place in Week 10 of this term. Please look out for these letters so you can make a booking to discuss your child's Semester 1 achievements. We encourage all parents to attend and meet with teachers and value this short but important time to set student goals for Term 3.

Love One Another,
Deborah Cox

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Getting to know our Staff

Acting Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke

I have been teaching for over twenty years with experience across most grades. I have been in Leadership positions for the past 15 years where I have been Learning Technology Support Coordinator, Early Stage One Co-ordinator, Assistant Principal and Acting Principal. I am an EMU Specialist Teacher for Early Years and Middle Years. I have a passion for professional reading and try to keep up to date with best practice in learning and teaching.



IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, 26th June	Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day, Jameson Park, Penrith
Monday, 2nd July	OPEN DAY for prospective new families - 9.30am-10.30am
Monday, 2nd July-4th July	PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS by appointment only
Friday, 6th July	Last day of Term 2 for Staff and Students
Monday, 23rd July	Term 3 commences for Staff and Students
Tues, 31st August	ICAS English Competition - 7.30am in the Staffroom



RE NEWS

Last Sunday's gospel was a wonderful example of the teaching style of Jesus. Jesus used the parable form almost exclusively to share his message. He used imagery that was familiar to his audience; parables about the everyday life of a rural community: seeds, planting, growing, harvesting.

This is nowhere more evident than in the image of the mustard seed. On the surface the parable is about the kingdom of God starting from very small, humble beginnings and growing into something great. However, immediately prior to this kingdom parable, Jesus has reminded us that the community makes a living out of growing grain crops like wheat for bread, etc. His parable about the mustard seed describes a tiny seed that grows into a great shrub 'so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade'. A farming community that was growing grain crops would be greatly alarmed at the thought of actually attracting birds to their fields or even nearby. The kingdom brings unrest and disquiet to the predictable. The kingdom of God is unsettling. The kingdom asks us to do things we either don't want to do or are afraid to do.



Here is a link to a video, which discusses the kingdom and our responsibilities associated with being a part of the kingdom.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRNvn_hEk4U

SPORTS NEWS

Athletics Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards from the 2018 Primary Athletics Carnival:-

Junior Boys Age champion

Thomas Clarke

Junior Boys Runner Up

Bankrasio Butros

Junior Girls Age Champion

Natasha Martinez

Junior Girls Runner Up

Chloe D'Sa & Sofia Chahine



11 year Boys Age Champion

Antoni Arshilo

11 Year Boys Runner Up

Abel Reec

11 year Girls Age Champion

Georgia Bonello & Achol Mow

11 year Girls Runner Up

Michelle Otim

Senior Boys Age Champion

Joshua Sammut

Senior Boys Runner Up

Dante Carbone

Senior Girls Age Champion

Faiza Shata

Senior Girls Runner Up

Alicia Micallef

Stage 3 Boys Soccer

We hope all the boys, teachers and parents attending the Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day are all rugged up and have an enjoyable day.

Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer – Tuesday 26th Jamison Park, Penrith.

All notes have been sent home with students and we thank all those students who have returned their notes promptly.



2018 St Nicholas Netball Gala Day in Term 3

In weeks 9 and 10 we will be holding trials to select netball teams to attend this gala day in term 3. A bus is used to transport the students to and from the venue.



Yours In sport

Mrs Cristy Budd / Mr Joe Ng

PE Teachers



WE ARE A
COMMUNITY

P&F NEWS



Partnership ● Community ● Agile ● Knowledge ● Togetherness



St Michael's Blacktown Sth P&F



stmichaelspandf@gmail.com



Kris : 0409 952 852

PRC



Leanne : 0413 546 062

Parents Representative Council - Web: <http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au/home>

School Representative: Michelle Williams

Calendar of Events – 2018

Term 3

19th August – Shopping Bus Trip

Date TBC – Car Boot Sale

Date TBC – Movie Night Funded by P&F

Term 4

19th October – Rides Night

TBA – Xmas Concert

Check out what's on order for our sports
department 🏀🏈🏊🏆

Another great way the P&F are supporting our
School

Big shout out to Ms Budd for the awesome
design #multitalentedteacher



Our Purpose...

Bringing parents and teachers together, to enrich the lives of all students through safe and respectful learning and the love of one another.

In addition to this we commit as a Community to Fundraise for the purpose of providing valuable resources.

P&F Meeting Update – Wednesday 6th June 2018

Thanks to everyone who showed up to our last P&F Meeting, it was a biggest group yet ☺

We talked about our new Strategy and Plans for the remainder of the year. For those who missed it, jump onto our Facebook Page and I will re-share the links the below documents:

P&F Strategy
Minutes
Financials



BARGAIN BUYERS Warehouse Shopping Tours

We are very excited to announce that we have booked a Shopping Tour for **Sunday 19th August, 2018** which is just in time to start organising yourself for Christmas lol.

Date: Sunday 19th August, 2018
Tour Cost: \$34 (min 40) / \$37 (min 30) / \$39 (min 20) /
\$55 (min 15) paying passengers

Times: Pick Up: 7.00am Drop Off: 6.00pm

Pick up Address: School Bus Bay, Orwell Street

We are looking into the possibility of providing pre-paid lunch packs (salads / wraps, water etc.) instead of stopping for a Pub Lunch which will save \$\$ and increase our Shopping Time 😊 I will keep you updated.

How to Book:

Please contact Leanne Cash (details below) to provide your details & number of people you have coming or to Kris at Kiss & Drop in the mornings. Based on some initial feedback we've had we expect this to be popular so get in quick so you don't miss out.

Money won't need to be collected until early August so you have plenty of time 😊

Don't forget to ask your Family & Friends 😊

Leanne Mobile: 0413 546 062

Leanne Email: leannecash@gmail.com

Second Hand Uniform Shop

We are in need of some pre-loved Winter Uniforms for the Second hand Uniform Shop. If you have anything you would like to donate you can drop of on Wednesday mornings to Karen Estrada or during the week to Kris at Kiss & Drop.

The Uniform Shop is open on Wednesday mornings from 8:30am to 9:30am.

WATCH THIS SPACE

More details to come on our Term 3

- Car Boot Sale



- P&F Funded Movie Night – *let's bring our Community together*



Think of two children who you have regular contact with; one who is resilient and happy, and one who is struggling and languishing. Imagine you are interviewing each of them and you ask them to rate their response to these six questionnaire items:

- I think I am doing pretty well
- I can think of many ways to get the things in life that are important to me
- I am doing just as well as other kids my age
- When I have a problem I can come up with lots of ways to solve it
- I think the things I have done in the past will help me in the future
- Even when others want to quit, I can find ways to solve the problem.

Chances are that the child who is resilient will respond affirmatively to these items. The child who is struggling is more likely to say 'no' than 'yes'.

These items form the basis of the internationally-recognised Children's Hope Scale that is used to assess the hopefulness of children and teens. Hope is a critically important predictor of their wellbeing and resilience.

Understanding hope

Psychologists say a person has hope when they believe that they can find ways to achieve their goals and to motivate themselves to try and follow those ways and meet those goals. Hope theory suggests we need three things to actually have 'hope':

- goals: something we are aiming to achieve in the future
- pathways: at least one way (and hopefully more than one) that we might



parenting * ideas

follow to achieve those goals

- agency (sometimes called efficacy): the belief that we can actually make things happen along those pathways in order to meet the goals.

Hope or optimism

Hope sounds a bit like optimism. We hope good things will happen so we're optimistic. But there's more to it than that.

While optimism is the belief that good things will happen in the future, and the sense that the glass is half full, hope is about taking that optimism, making it goal oriented and putting legs on it to make things happen.

And while optimism is great for boosting wellbeing and can act as a useful tool for inoculating people against depression, it seems hope does it better. This may be because while optimism is a positive mindset, hope is about action.

In contrast, if you don't have hope, you're, well, hope-less. That's related to all the things we don't want for our children. Hopeless kids don't try, have poor relationships and feel helpless. They don't achieve goals, often because they don't set any. And when they do set them, that's where it stops because they don't have enough hope to find ways to achieve those goals.

Encouraging kids to be hopeful

Parents who want to instill hope in their children can try the following three ideas:

1. Build a future focus

Speak to your children about their possible futures. What do they want to achieve, and why? Have them imagine their potential best selves. Talk to them about what they're looking forward to. Ask them what they want to have, do and be.



2. Work with them on plans (or pathways)

When your child or young person says "I want to be a marine biologist", be encouraging and then ask them, "What do you need to do to get there?" Discuss pathways, options and possibilities. Thinking about the future and making plans is central to fostering hope.

3. Help them solve problems

When your child or young person is stuck, instead of giving them an answer, ask them, "What do you think is the next best thing to do?" or "When have you overcome something like this before?" This type of question promotes a sense of agency or efficacy. Rather than having our children rely on us for all the answers, they can rely on themselves, their resourcefulness and their initiative. They can recall times they've succeeded before and use that to build hope that they can succeed again.

As parents, our wish for our children is that they will grow up happy and resilient. Our wish can become 'hope' when we use these three keys to build hope in them as they look towards the future.



St Michael's Primary School
Blacktown South

PRESENTS

WINTER DANCE WORKSHOP

4 STYLES OF DANCE
JULY 18, 2018
SHELLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL, BLACKTOWN
10AM- 3.30PM

JNRS 8-12YRS
SNRS 13YRS+

Jazz
Hip Hop
Contemporary
Musical Theatre & more

\$65 TIX

EARLY BIRD
PRICING AVAILABLE
UNTIL 22ND JUNE
\$80 standard rate

Reserve your spot now at trybooking.com search
Innovative Dance Co to find us
email info@innovatedance.com.au for details

Book Now
limited places available

Jay Johns

Emma Jarmen



St Michael's Primary School Blacktown South

St Michael's is a Catholic learning community that Reflects, Engages and Empowers by:

- Promoting a vibrant Religious Education program, prayer and spiritual life for students
- Living out our school motto 'Love One Another' through active involvement in social justice
- Educating the whole child—academically, physically, emotionally and spiritually
- Ensuring teaching and learning is purposeful, relevant, innovative and collaborative
- Supporting each member of the community in their faith and learning journey

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS FOR 2019
PLACES AVAILABLE KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6**

OPEN DAYS

Monday, 28th May 2018—9:30am-10:30am
Thursday, 31st May 2018—4:00pm-5:00pm
Monday, 2nd July 2018—9:30am-10:30am

For information or to enrol contact:

155 Reservoir Road, Blacktown 2148

Phone 8869 6200 email stmichaelsblkn@parra.catholic.edu.au

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f St Michael's Blacktown South

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