



# St Michael's Primary School

## Blacktown South

### NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2012—ISSUE 14

4 SEPTEMBER 2012

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### SEPTEMBER

Wed 5th	Blue & Gold MUFTI DAY - Coin Trail
Thurs 6th	Year 3 Excursion to Lessons Afloat
Fri 7th	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Wed 12th	Maths Olympiad
Thurs 13th	MacKillop Athletics - Homebush
Fri 14th	JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY
Mon 17th	Public Speaking
Tues 18th	Public Speaking
Wed 19th	STUDENT JUBILEE CELEBRATION DAY
Thurs 20th	Public Speaking
Fri 21st	Stage 2 Touch Gala Day
"	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HOLIDAYS

#### OCTOBER

Mon 8th	SCHOOL RESUMES FOR TERM 4
---------	---------------------------

**St Michael's Church**  
Orwell Street  
Blacktown South

#### MASS Times:

Sat. Vigil - 6.00pm  
Sun, 8am, 9.30am, 6pm  
Weekdays: 8am  
Wednesday Evenings - 7.30pm  
1st Friday 7.30pm  
Phone: 9622 9149  
www.stmichaelsparish.com

+++++

Note going home with this Newsletter:

- Ken Gates Tennis
- COSHC - Staff Development Day and Vacation Care Information

155 Reservoir Road  
Blacktown South 2148  
Ph: 9622 9910  
Fax: 9622 6902

#### Website:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au  
Email:  
stmichaelsblkn@parra.catholic.edu.au

## St Michael's Celebrating 50 Years of "Loving One Another"



### From the Principal

Dear Parents & Friends,

#### REMINDERS

**Wednesday, 5th September - Blue & Gold MUFTI DAY**

**Friday, 7th September - Staff Development Day**  
**No staff will be on site**

Firstly, let me sincerely thank all of you for your thoughts, kind words but mostly your prayers. Having my Mother and Father passing into their new lives has been a difficult time for my family. But it is times such as these that our faith keeps us strong with the hope of "Everlasting Life". It is also during these times that the gifts of family and friends are realized and treasured.

As part of mum's Eulogy I used this image of William Hunts "Light of the World". In this icon Jesus approaches a locked door with Lantern in hand. The door has no outward handle. This represents Jesus constantly inviting us to "open up" to his presence, his love, his light. Throughout our lives this knocking on our closed door will continue.

For my mum and dad, now in their "new life", means that the door between them and Jesus remains "Open for Eternity".

**Some great EVENTS as Term 3 enters its last phase.**

Week 8:

What a term for extra Curricula activities. Our children have participated and succeeded in achieving great results in:-

⇒ Cross Country, Voice of Youth, Diocesan Athletics Carnival, Maths Olympiad  
And this week our Senior School Choir celebrated their achievement in a Combined Catholic Schools Choir Concert. Sincere thanks to Mrs Mastrova, our Choir Teacher, and our primary school children.

#### Friday, 7th September - Staff Development Day

This important educational event will see our teaching teams visiting 7 schools in the Diocese.

We will view:

- ⇒ Teachers working collaboratively in Agile, Flexible (Open) Learning Spaces
- ⇒ Engagement of Students - organization of students learning groups
- ⇒ Use of Resources and Furniture

Teaching Teams will return to St Michael's where they will present their findings. We will critically review what worked, what didn't and how we will make it work for our children.



**THE JUBILEE WEEK:** Celebration is getting close.

## FRIDAY, 14th September is the BIG DAY

10.00am

Jubilee Mass

11.30am

Morning tea with your children

12.15pm

Whole School Showcase

1.00pm

Open Classrooms

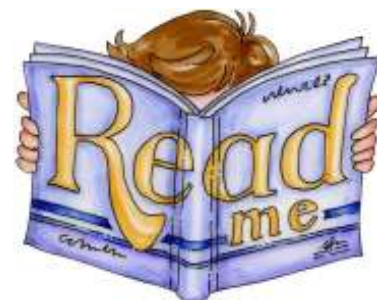
7.30pm

Jubilee Dinner

### READING WITH YOUR CHILD:

When You Think You're Done. You've Just Begun! Get the conversation started!! After enjoying a book with your child, whether he/she reads to you, or you read to them, continue the experience by asking:

- ⇒ What did you notice about the story?
- ⇒ Does this book remind you of anything?
- ⇒ What have you been wondering as you read?
- ⇒ Does this book make you think of anything else you've read?
- ⇒ What was your favorite part?
- ⇒ Were there any parts that surprised you?
- ⇒ What are you going to read next?



Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Laffan', written over a light blue horizontal line.

John Laffan  
PRINCIPAL

## RE News

When Isaiah described the signs by which the Messiah would be recognised, he identified those people who were isolated from society by their physical afflictions. He portrayed a Messiah who released them from those afflictions and allowed them to re-enter society. That is what Jesus did time and time again. In the healing of the deaf and dumb man in next Sunday's Gospel, Jesus called on all those around him to also be opened – that their hearts may be opened to compassion. Jesus calls to us through the gospel to also be open to compassion and open to the needs of those around us.

### HELP NEEDED!!!!

**I have 12 pieces of fabric, which need to be hemmed. If you are able to help please contact me at school before the end of the week.**

Anne Easton  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

## Fathers' Day Liturgy

It was great to see so many Dads and their children at our Fathers' Day breakfast and Liturgy. Thank you all for coming. We hope you enjoyed your food, the handball championships and the prayerful Liturgy prepared by the Liturgy team and the students.

Thank you also for sharing your photos showing how you spend time with your sons and daughters. From these photos we could see how much this special time is enjoyed by both parents and children. These photos will be returned this week.

**The Liturgy Team**

## Canteen

If you could spare one hour on Friday's from 9.00am to help count the baskets. Your help would be greatly appreciated as this is the busiest time as we need to get the hot food into the ovens before 10.30am. If you can help please ring me at school or at home or just come in on Friday morning.

Please make sure you are using the Blue Price List - Term 2. Any wrong prices will be substituted.

Thursday Roster - Please ring Geny on 9621 2558 if you can't make your day rostered.

Jan Crawford  
**CANTEEN MANAGER**  
 Home Phone: 9622 5703

## Library

### Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who managed to complete their reading just in time to earn a certificate.

Oliver Bicanic - 1G	Oliver Vella - 1G	Kayla Zerafa - 1P
Alex Hanna - 2G	Issabelle Makdesi - 2G	Matthias Barrett - 2H
Joshua Pinto - 2H	Benjamin Vella - 2H	Georgia Tabone - 6C

In total we have 161 students who will receive certificates at the end of the year – our best result ever. Well done to all readers and their parents who supported them.

### Book Fair

Thanks to all who came along and bought books from our Book Fair last week. I'm sure you would all be pleased with your purchases. There were lots of lovely books at very good prices. We sold just under \$3800 worth of books. This means the Library will receive approximately \$720 as commission to use to purchase new resources for your children.

### Chess

Macquarie University is holding a Schools Chess Challenge on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September from 9.30 til 3.30. Teams of 3 are invited to attend. Cost : \$12 per player. Closing date Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The tournament will be a 7-round Swiss, and players will use a Chess clock with time limit. Players will need to take their own food or pre-order from a sausage sizzle or canteen.

*Parents will be responsible for their own children as St Michaels will not be arranging supervision.*

If you are interested in having your child take part, please call in to the Library for further information. If enough students would like to attend, I will arrange registration.

Judy Buhagiar  
**TEACHER/LIBRARIAN**

## Awards

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Primary Assembly on 27th August 2012:

### **3B**

Angeli Giannakopoulous  
 Saber Sader  
 Christian Telidis  
 Renae Sanga

### **3C**

Japleen Devgan  
 Jeremy Grohs  
 Diya Patel  
 Swaraj Parimi

### **3D**

Nykoth Aguer  
 Julina Barisic  
 Lucas Afarian  
 Jeydan Sami

### **3S**

Rhyce Muscat  
 Bronte Anne Weyham  
 Blake Doolin  
 Sharon Noguiero

### **4C**

Ravleen Kaur  
 Anthony Simic  
 Elizabeth Grills  
 Sahil Punjwani

### **4E**

Abrielle Zafra  
 Harrison Attard  
 Damon Siderides  
 Joshua Young

### **4M**

Lachlan Cook  
 Thomas O'Callaghan  
 Claudia Estrada  
 Sarah Smith

### **4S**

Jerissa Valmeo  
 Susan Sogora  
 Owen Walker

**5K**

Noah Afarian  
Matthew Faaumu  
Natalia Sharma  
Mark Kassis

**5P**

Kristina Markovic  
Nansy Koko  
Aaron Collings  
Giorgio Hajjar

**5S**

Hayden Hunter  
Julian Cefai  
Mahnoor Syed-Zaihi  
Dajana Popovic

**5W**

Daniel Muscat  
Sindhu Lal  
Jim Abdalla  
Blake Bano

**6A**

Jason Barrak  
Sandra Zabala  
Christian Williams  
Sofia Lansley

**6C**

Taylor Hayes  
Kassy Papadimatos  
Angelo Montoya  
Caleb Begg

**6J**

Laren Henry  
Jonthan Tabone  
Andrew Amabile  
James Antonios

## Sport

### NETBALL GALA DAY:

On Tuesday, 21st August, I had the pleasure of taking 4 teams of girls to the Netball Gala Day held on Jamison Netball Complex, Penrith. The day was fantastic, the weather was beautiful and sunny and the girls were a credit to their families and our school. Their behaviour and sportsmanship was outstanding. I was so proud to be the teacher representing St Michael's all because of these young ladies.

All the teams won at least a few of their matches and all of them tried their best and improved over the course of the day. Our 9 year team was unbeaten in all of their games and were awarded the winners of their division! Congratulations girls!! I would just like to thank our fabulous helpers on the day, Mr Smith, Mr & Mrs Hardman, Madison DeLuca, Haylen, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Puckett, Mrs Papadimatos and Mrs Warn. Without these team supervisors and umpires our day would not have run so smoothly so a HUGE thank you once again.

Kerrilyn O'Brien



## Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSHC)

We now have before and after school care at St Michael's. If you require the services of our Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSHC) enrolment forms are available from the office or call Ben on 0419 554 302 for more information.

## Catholic Early Learning Centre (CELC)

The Catholic Early Learning Centre St Michael's Parish, 62a Orwell Street, Blacktown South is a service for preschool children 3 to 5 years. For enrolment and further information please contact Donna Harding CELC Director on telephone number 8814 8406 or email [donna.harding@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:donna.harding@parra.catholic.edu.au).

## Community News

Twice a year the Solo Parent Ministry runs the "Recovery" Program which is an excellent seven week process aimed to assist those who are separated or divorced to work through some of the issues and agenda that come up as a result of this very traumatic and difficult event in their lives. It begins Wednesday, 17th October, 7.30pm at Blacktown - Cost \$70.00. To register contact Sr Eileen Quade on 99330205 or email [eileen.quade@ccss.org.au](mailto:eileen.quade@ccss.org.au)

## Uniform

Children will remain in Winter Uniform until Term 4.

## Technology News



**PARENTS CHECK OUT  
St Michaels Blacktown South  
Facebook Page!!!!**

We are so proud of our students and teachers at St Michaels. We produce amazing work each day in our classrooms. Learning, engaging and communicating with each other.

We know parents would love to see their students' work and learn more about what is happening in classes.

You can now see your children's work on our Facebook site.

If you go onto our school Website- click on our Facebook page link, this will allow you to automatically open our school Facebook Page. Or download a QR code reader in the apps store- scan the barcode below to access our school website.

Please **Like us** on our Facebook page. The more Likes the better.



**Photography of Students:** As Facebook is a public domain please let your classroom teacher know in writing if you prefer your child not be photographed.

**St Michael's school Website:**



Jennifer Coope  
Learning Technology Coordinator

## P & F News

A big thank you to all the parents and friends that made the Father's Day stall such a great success. We hope all dads had a wonderful day last Sunday.

Ride passes for the Spring Fair are still on sale. They are \$25.00 each. You can either send in your form with your child to school, or purchase the tickets outside the Open Learning Space Monday to Friday between 2.30 and 3.00pm.

To date the class tally for the pizza party looks like this:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place = 6J                      2<sup>nd</sup> Place = 3C                      3<sup>rd</sup> Place = 6E                      Anyone can still win**

We are still needing volunteers for the Spring Fair, if you would like to be part of the organizing prior to the event or would like to help out on the day please call Jenny on 0407 480 429. If you know or work for any organizations that would consider contributing to our prize pool for the chocolate wheel we would love to here from you.

Jenny Warn  
**P & F PRESIDENT**

## Experiencing NSW State Gymnastics

On Sunday, 29th July 2012, I attended the State in Gymnastics Competition at Homebush, Olympic Park. There, I competed against 121 gymnasts in four apparatuses - Vault, Bars, Beam and Floor. All the gymnast did great routines. I was also happy with my routines as I did not fall off. This competition was very competitive, so I was very nervous. After a two hour nerve racking wait it was finally time for the presentation. During the presentation I was so nervous, just waiting, hoping for my name to be called out. Then I heard the announcer call out my name saying I came third on beam. I then was called out for first place on floor. I was also surprised when they announced that out of 121 people I came 4th overall in the competition. This resulted in our club, Seven Hills RSL, to also come 5th overall out of 25 clubs. I was so very happy for what I had help achieve for my club and a personal best after entering this competition for the last 4 years.



*Written by: Georgia Tabone*

## JUBILEE - 14th September 2012

### Creative and Practical Arts

#### PERFORMANCES

The students at St Michael's have been working extremely hard in preparation for some exciting upcoming performances this term.

Next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September (week 9) Kindergarten students will perform their grade dance 'I Like to Move It' as part of the Jubilee celebrations. Kindy students learnt the dance in Term one and will have the opportunity to showcase their (rather cute) talents to the school community next Friday. The students have been practicing their dance and are very excited to perform to an audience!

2S and 2H will also be performing their exceptional talents in 'Dynamite' as well as 4E and 4S with 'Rock this Party'.

More details to follow this week for students involved in those dances regarding what they are to wear as a part of this special event.



There will also be CHOIR and STRING performances to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee day.



## Jack and the Beans Talk

A play performed by Year 4

Year 4 students have been doing a combined unit of Drama and Music this term. As part of this unit they have been rehearsing an adaptation of the children's story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. It is a light-hearted comedy about a boy who wants to be rich and famous. The students of year 4 have accepted the challenges that go along with being a stage actor: learning lines, singing songs and blocking movement on a stage. They have accepted this challenge in a short amount of time with enthusiasm and vigor and have done a magnificent job rehearsing! I am very proud of their effort and determination and cannot wait for their skills to be showcased!

Their hard work will culminate with performances in Week 10 of this term to Infants students. Dress rehearsals will start this week in CAPA classes and many students have already brought in their outfits/costumes that they plan to wear. Thank you to both students and parents for your hard work, support and dedication to this exciting opportunity!

Katrina Orenstein

**CREATIVE & PRACTICAL ARTS TEACHER**