



St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2012—ISSUE 9

12 JUNE 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE

Fri 15th	Sacred Heart Mass - 9.30am
"	NSWCPA - Cross Country - Eastern Creek
Mon 18th	ICAS Writing Competition
"	Infants Assembly - KB & KW presenting - 2.15pm
Tues 19th	ICAS Spelling Comp K2013 Interviews
Wed 20th	K2013 interviews MUFTI DAY
Thurs 21st	Primary Athletics Carnival
Sat 23rd	K2013 Interviews
Mon 25th	Reports sent home to parents
Tues 26th	Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day—Rooty Hill Parent teacher meetings K2013 Interviews

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

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EXTRAS GOING HOME IN THIS ISSUE:

- Emme Emus's Maths challenge

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



From the Principal

Dear Parents & Friends,

We are approaching our **Reporting and Feedback** phase of the year.

Over the first semester teachers have been using a variety of assessment tools to gain a 'deep understanding of your child'.

'Getting to know a child' is a complex task, it requires reflecting on learning styles, strengths, motivations, challenges, personality and drive. This phase of the year is critical in understanding a child's strengths, challenges and planning future 'Learning Directions'.

Recently a parent said to me "John, my child must have a better education than I had... my job is going off shore, my child must have an education that will promote greater opportunities"

In last week's release of the "Wellbeing Index", it was stated "the biggest contributor to the increase in the nations wellbeing was the surge in the value of the nation's human capital. Economists have long recognized that the only sustainable path to the increase in living standards is rising Productivity Levels and that it takes a well skilled and knowledgeable workforce to work "smarter not harder".

And so, this 'connection' with class teacher requires of you, a good understanding of the "PORTFOLIO" and completion of the 'Parent Reflection Sheet'. This period of our work will support your child's growth and ongoing development.

Getting the Most out of your Child's Portfolio

This important document holds samples of the many assessments completed by your child in Terms 1 & 2. It is important to look at all assessment tasks and the Rubric or Criteria.



TASK:

This is the actual task that links student activity with syllabus outcomes. In other words, this activity requires children to use knowledge and understanding to respond to a question. Remember there may be a variety of right answers.

OUTCOMES:

These outcomes come from 'Syllabus Documents' for all Key Learning Areas. Outcomes are benchmarks for students in a particular stage.

INDICATORS:

These are specific skills and knowledge that children bring to the task. It will be important for you to identify that level of skill and knowledge that has been described by your child's teachers.

It is then important to take time in working through the task and reflecting on your child's achievement level.

Referring back to the Assessment task sheet will also support your understanding of your child's growth and next steps in their development.

FEEDBACK

I believe our children need our FEEDBACK. I believe it is important to acknowledge the growth and provide supportive words as to how we as parents and teachers can continue our ongoing support.

I look forward to seeing you at the up and coming Parent Teacher Meetings.

Regards



John Laffan
PRINCIPAL

From the Assistant Principal

As mentioned in our last newsletter, selected students from St Michael's participated in Maths Olympiad. This competition has been in operation for many years.

The aims of the Maths Olympiad are:

- ◆ To introduce students to important mathematical concepts.
- ◆ To teach major strategies and develop flexibility for problem solving.
- ◆ To foster creativity and ingenuity and strengthen intuition.
- ◆ To stimulate enthusiasm and enjoyment for mathematics.
- ◆ To provide for the satisfaction, joy and thrill of meeting challenges.

The following students are participating in the 2012 Maths Olympiad:

Keenan Tamayo	Annette Iskander	Annabel Darmali	Briana Car
Vishal Kumar	Charlie-Rose Bartlett	Geraldine Vella	Marcus Corriea
Jason Wormleaton	Esconda Fozi	Michelle Lin	Montanna Farguharson
Michelle Lin	Luke Eckersley	Rolan Gonzales	Sargun Saddhar
Gary Ho	David Lee	Utkarsh Sharma	Nathan Aberra
Joshua Lozada	Monique Salazar	Nathaniel Perez	

Competition dates are: 23rd May, 20th June, 25th July, 22nd August and 12th September. Good luck to our participants.

Some of the questions asked are:

Different letters represent different digits. If $ADD + ADD + ADD = SUMS$ and A is even, what is the 4 digit number $SUMS$.

In a group of dogs and their owners, there are exactly 20 heads and 64 legs. How many dogs are in the group?

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

Parents are required by law to ensure that children aged between 6 and 17 attend school. Schools are required to monitor and keep a register of student attendance in accordance with common codes which explain absences.

Parents it is most important that students are present at the beginning of each school day from at least 8.45. During this time before formal lessons commence students are able to:

- connect with their peers,
- hold conversations
- engage in play.

These social skills are important in their development, they are then ready and eager to commence the learning period at 9am. Children who arrive after 9am find it difficult to settle into the classroom routines and may miss some crucial learnings at the beginning of the day.

Likewise children who leave before the end of the day may also miss out on important information.

We therefore ask that you carefully consider bringing your child to school on time and ensuring that they remain at school for the entire teaching and learning times from 9am till 3pm.

Prompt collection of students after school by 3.15 would also be appreciated.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As a matter of Occupational Health and Safety the school gates will now be closed to cars from 10.00am till 3.30pm each day. Therefore there will be no access into or out of the car park between these hours.

Helen Boyer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RE News

Last Sunday we celebrated the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - (Corpus Christi). The words of the gospel passage in which Jesus takes bread and wine and blesses them will be familiar. They are the words used at the consecration of the bread and wine during the Mass. The words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper are regarded as instituting the celebration of the Eucharist. Jesus took an act that was familiar to the Passover meal and gave it a new meaning and a new significance for his followers. What had been a memory of escape from slavery in Egypt became an ongoing reminder of Christ's continued presence in the Eucharist and in the Eucharistic community.

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to our Mufti Day for our Sacred Heart Mass on Friday 15th June. During Mass we will be presenting the St Vincent De Paul Society with blankets that have been purchased with the money raised. Please feel most welcome to attend Mass at 9.30am in the Church.

Anne Easton
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Uniform Shop



OPENING HOURS: Friday, 8.30-11.15am. Just a reminder that we are only allowed to have 2 customers at the uniform shop at one time. If you do not have a number we ask you to please wait on the silver seats downstairs. If our trading time does not suit you, you are welcome to place an order and it will be filled and sent home with your child. We can only accept cash or cheque for these orders. We understand your concerns regarding current opening times and are reviewing this and will advise when a decision is made.

Cassandra Powell
UNIFORM SHOP ASSISTANT

Canteen

Please use the blue price list that went home with last Newsletter. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest item even if this means a sandwich for the money enclosed. Please note that **we are not allowed to reheat** any food brought into school from home as OH&S guidelines do not allow us to reheat.

Focus Sports water flavours are lemonade, raspberry, fruit tingle, blackcurrant and fruit fix. Canteen helpers are reminded to please call Geny if you can't make Thursday's roster. **Remember: St Michael's is a peanut / nutella and nut free school.** Thank you for your support!!

Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER
Home Phone: 9622 5703

P & F News

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!

*****All items of clothing must be labeled by week one of term 3*****

Starting in week 1 of term 3 the way the lost property box operates will be changing. As of next term, the box will be locked throughout the school week. Every Friday the box will be opened, sorted and all labeled clothing will be hand delivered back to your children. If items placed in the lost property box are not labeled these items will be donated directly to the second hand clothing pool. This system has been put into place to ensure all children's items are returned.

SPRING FAIR

For the first time ever the St Michael's Spring Fair will have RIDES, yes RIDES!! An unlimited ride pass will cost \$25.00 and will be available for sale in August. There will be rides suitable for toddlers through to teens, so add this one to your budget it will be well worth it. If you would like to volunteer to assist us in the organization leading up to the big day please contact **Jenny Warn 0407 480 429**, we would love to hear from you.

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

St Michael's is registered for the 2012 Earn and Learn competition. It is so easy to support your school. Just collect your earn and learn stickers every time you shop at Woolworths, add them to your sticker chart and send them into school.

Jenny Warn
P & F PRESIDENT

Library

Premiers Reading Challenge - Congratulations to the following students who have now completed their Reading Challenges:

Paavan Mondeddu	1G	Denica Brillo	2S
Prem Mondeddu	1G	Emma Depares	3S
Aiden Galea	10	Vincent Aquino	3S
Damian Lloyd	1P	Alilsha Depares	4C
Heramb Bamra	1P	Kristina Markovic	5P
Shanelle Raj	2G		

These students will now be included in the monthly draws for book prizes. **New Platinum Certificate**. Students who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge seven times will receive an individualised PRC Certificate as recognition of this achievement. This will be in addition to the Gold Certificates issued after 4 years of participation.

Reading Quote for the National Year of Reading—NYR 2012

"Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him" - Maya Angelou

Judy Buhagiar
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

Sport

Athletics Carnival

A quick reminder that the sports carnival is fast approaching, Thursday 21st June. Please ensure you clearly communicate your plans for transportation on the note & that it is returned to your classroom teacher for collation ASAP! It is essential that students traveling on the buses provided arrive at school early. Any parent helpers for the day are much appreciated!

Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day

On Tuesday the 29th May our Stage 3 Boys had the opportunity to play in the CEO Gala Day. The boys had been preparing well after school under the guidance of Mr Graham & Mr Gafa. The boys looked the goods from the start getting the points in every game leading up to our final. At this stage we had not conceded a goal & a

draw would have been enough for us to win the competition. Our opponent OLOR were also undefeated and proved to be a very tough side. After being up 1-0 at halftime OLOR decided to pour it on playing the best football of the day defeating us 3-1.

Matthew Graham	James Kinsella
Matthew Dudgeon	Andrew Amabile
William Gafa	Andrew Kaskanoitis
Joshua Jbarat	Pius Baragi
Jason Wormleaton	Julian Cefai
Marcus Correia	Andre Angola
Ernest Reec	

Jeff Phillips
PE TEACHER

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a **CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT** at the Primary Assembly on 4 June 2012:

3B

Angeli Giannakopoulos
Nicholas Pezzano
Declan Suarez
Crisa Benicarlo

3C

Angelina Ayala
Johan Dantoc
Thomas Hurst
Lovreen Kumar

3D

Mariam Abdelmasih
Melissa Correia
Olivia Borg
Thomas Uren

3S

Jeremy Grohs
Vince Maiurana
Aaliyah Khoury
Angelina Ayala

4C

Blake Graham
Matthew Flores
Analese Vella
Martin Ayuel

4E

Miguell Gara
Lily Hardman
Gabrielle Gumatay
Brandan Law

4M

Flavia Aya
Jessica Biegel
Darius Meina
Seandan Arias

4S

Jake Pearce
Jessica O'Brien
Mosam Patel
Ashley Femia

5K

Emily Hartsuyker
Dev Saldanha
Tayla Begg
Lucas Groom

5P

Justin Lopez
Montanna Farquharson
Kristina Markovic
Joshua Lin

5S

Erin Minett
Ashna Varma
Pukhraj Sanghera
Saranya Krishnan

5W

Andre Angulo
Jessica Relunia
Jeroen Salvador
Teagan Dever

6A

Lauren Carter
Michelle Besterwitch
Daniel Kucheruk
Nicholas Urludag

6E

Aswithaa Visakesawaren
Simon Koutoulas
Anthony Salman
Alex Valderrama

6C

Rhys Salman
Utkarsh Sharma
Cassandra Murray
Garry Ho

6J

Arrienne Falsetta
Juliet Bayeh
Tianna Galea
Madeleine Beavis

St Michael's Facebook Page / Twitter



St Michael's has a new Facebook page. Our page name is "St Michael's Blacktown South" We also have a Twitter Account "St Michaels2148" Find us and follow our updates.

We add photos and status updates all the time. Please "Like us" on facebook. The more support you show, the more we will be able to share with you all.

Kind Regards
Jennifer Coope
Learning Technology Co-ordinator

St Michael's - Catholic Early Learning Centre

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.