



# St Michael's Primary School

## Blacktown South

### NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2012—ISSUE 7

15 MAY 2012

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### MAY

Wed 16 May	NAPLAN—Reading
Thurs 17 May	NAPLAN—Numeracy
Fri 18 May	Walk Safely to School Day
Mon 21st	Whole School Assembly - 2.15pm

" Blacktown City Council presenting Bush Poet School Tour in FKDLC 4M & 4C attending 11.00am-12noon

Wed 23rd	National Simultaneous Storytime
-------------	---------------------------------

" Blacktown City Council presenting Bush Poet School Tour in FKDLC 4S & 4E attending 11.00am-12noon

Tues 29 May	Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day
----------------	-------------------------

Wed 30 May	P & F Meeting 2:00pm
---------------	----------------------

" World Biggest Morning Tea

Thurs 31st	Year 2 Excursion to Rouse Hill House
---------------	--------------------------------------

#### JUNE

Fri 1st	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (Pupil Free Day)
------------	--

#### 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

#### EXTRAS GOING HOME IN THIS ISSUE:

- Emme Emus's Maths challenge
- Uniform Shop Return and Refund Policy

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,

*As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. John 15:9-11*

Parents at St Michael's can and will make the difference.

Last week at our touching "Mother's Day Liturgy" I welcomed all of our community to Prayer. My invitation was to all those gathered who believed "in Jesus who lived, died and rose again for all people, and in our one God who sent his son so that we would feel his love, a love that never ends."

My invitation to the Mothers, Grandmothers and friends of the school was to **action**, after all prayer is a complete action, a time for **acknowledging** and living out our relationship with God.

In 2012 I have extended many invitations. I have sought your participation in liturgies, Open Days, Maths Seminars, P & F Meetings and Parent/Teacher Meetings.

Our children need your involvement at a high level of participation. We are working on two major Goals:

- ⇒ To bring a greater depth of understanding in reading the Gospel stories and so living out their message.
- ⇒ To support the Growth of all children in Mathematical understanding.

I know success of these Goals and all we do at St Michael's is dependent upon you and your level of active participation.

The teaching team is aware of our responsibilities, we must:-

- set the context for conversation with all parents
- be clear about what is most valuable in the learning interactions
- articulate that our shared knowledge will build consistency not only in understanding but attitudes

At St Michael's we hold the highest expectation that **ALL** children will grow.

We are in the midst of significant shifts in how we are approaching Mathematics and teaching across all the disciplines.

Our children need you, me, all of us to draw from them their experiences and understanding by using their developing language.

In short our children need lots and lots of **CONVERSATION MOMENTS** through our questions:-  
Why do you think that?..... Is there another way of doing that?.....  
How do you know that's right?.....  
Can you prove your conclusion?.....

What did you like best about?.....  
 Why did you write it that way?.....

Our children need you to talk, discuss, question, reflect and give feedback.

Finally, although parent/teacher interviews are set for Week 10 of this term, I personally believe that if you have any **concerns** these should be brought to the attention of your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Regards



John Laffan  
**PRINCIPAL**

## RE News

Have you ever thought what it really means to live out our school motto of 'love one another'? At first, it seems like a simple commandment given by Jesus: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I've never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who dislike me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost? Yes we can!!!

There is a wonderful line from the musical, *Les Miserables*, when the hero, Valjean, is told, 'To love another person is to see the face of God.' As Christian people, we believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. To look upon another person with love and compassion is to see the face of God revealed. When we are called to love, we are called to recognise that every single person is worthy of love and every single person is made in the image of God – even ourselves!

Mrs Anne Easton  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

## From the Assistant Principal

### WHY IS MATHS IMPORTANT?

Students learn about:

- **selecting and applying** appropriate mental, written or calculator strategies to solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- **estimating** and refining estimates in a variety of situations
- **modelling**, comparing and representing fractions and decimals
- **describing and applying** number patterns and relationships between numbers
- **analysing data** and drawing and interpreting graphs
- **selecting** and using appropriate units and devices to measure
- **manipulating**, describing and classifying two-dimensional shapes and three-dimensional objects
- **interpreting and communicating** information presented in numerical, geometrical, graphical, statistical and algebraic forms. (*Board of Studies: Mathematics K-6: Parent Support*)

Thank you to all the following children who took on Emme Emus maths challenge. Well done, now try this weeks challenge.

Jesse-Ryan Felipe KC  
 Jayden Rossar 1O  
 Joshua Pinto 2H  
 Annamaria Sofocleous 3D  
 Alisha Depares 4C  
 Joshua Lin 5P  
 Annabel Darmali 5S

Shayden Fernandes 1P  
 Madelyn Attard 2G  
 Shannon Gibbons 2S  
 Gloria Cinya 3D  
 Ravleen Kaur 4C  
 Bronte Nowsome 5S  
 Heramb Bamra 1P

Vanessa Portelli 2G  
 Issabelle Makdesi 2G  
 Anthony Siderides 2S  
 Krishna Narayan 4S  
 Ashley Galea 4E  
 Ashna Varma 5S  
 and 2 without names

Parents, please have some fun with your child in solving Emme Emus' Maths challenge this week. Ask your child questions like,

***How did you work that out?***

***Is there another way of doing that?***

***Did you think about.....?***

If you have fun doing Maths with your child then they will have a positive experience with Maths that will hopefully last.

Certificates will be presented at next week's assembly to the students who participated in the Holiday Maths Challenge.

Today we held our fifth opportunity for parents to engage in Maths at school. Parents left today's workshop with positive attitudes towards Maths, discovered new ways of looking at Maths and learnt how to have fun with Maths while teaching children important strategies and facts. The showbags that the parents received were filled with Maths equipment to use at home. Thank you to those who were able to attend we appreciate your support.

We hope to hold another workshop later in the year for those who were unable to attend today. So watch this space.

Helen Boyer  
**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

## Musica Viva

Musica Viva has been inspiring students throughout Australia for thirty years. This year, The Chambermaids will perform chamber classics with a contemporary zeal. St Michael's students will take a whirlwind tour of the wonderful and versatile music of the wind quintet, listen to the sounds of instruments familiar and foreign such as the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn and a boisterous hosepipe horn and participate in a live performance. This performance is part of the Creative and Practical Arts learning program at St Michael's and will develop and build on students knowledge of the music syllabus.

**When:** Thursday 31 May, 2012 (Week 6)

**Where:** The Father Kevin Dadswell Centre

**Who:** Stage 2 (Morning Session)

Stage 3 (Afternoon session)

Miss Orenstein

**CAPA Teacher**



## 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 pre-school 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).

## Uniform Shop

Trading hours are **Friday 8.30 am to 11.15am** for the remainder of the Term. 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

We desperately need 3 people for Friday's roster, 18th May as there are **NO VOLUNTEERS** for this day. Please call me and leave a message and I will call you back. Thursday's volunteers, could you please call Geny if you can't come on your day. Her number is on the roster. **Thorpedos and Twist and Drinks** are no longer available. Focus Water (5 Flavours) is \$1.90.

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

## P & F News

Thank you to all the mums who helped on the Mother's Day Stall. Just a reminder our next P & F Meeting will be on Wednesday, 30th May at 2.00pm. Hope to see you all there.

Marie Regan  
**P & F VICEPRESIDENT**

## Friends of our Earth

**WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY:** St Michael's is working towards becoming a more sustainable school. We are educating our students about where our waste ends up and how we, as individuals, can reduce the amount of waste we generate and send to landfill. Waste free lunches encourage the first step in the waste hierarchy- **AVOIDING WASTE.** Choosing products that have less packaging results in less waste you have to dispose of. It not only makes good environmental sense but it makes good economic sense too. Waste Free lunches are often cheaper and in most cases a lot healthier too!

**Did you know, packing a zero waste lunch could save a family up to \$300 per school year.**

We are encouraging all staff and students to participate in this waste free event.

### **WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY**

When: Wednesday 16th May, 2012

**What is it?:** On this day there will be **no bins at St Michael's.**

Food scraps can be put into the class compost bin. If you have waste, try to only have waste that is recyclable.

All waste will need to be taken home to be disposed of or recycled.

### **TIPS:**

- Pack lunch items in re-usable containers that can be taken back home
- Rather than bring single-serve packaging, try to buy larger containers of items for home (e.g., yoghurt), and bring lunch size amounts in reusable containers
- Bring drinks in reusable water bottles

*Below are some tips to help you pack your food for Waste Free Wednesday...*

<b>A waste free lunch may include:</b>	<b>Waste free lunch doesn't include:</b>
* Sandwiches in reusable containers	* Individually wrapped snacks
* Whole fruit without packaging	* Plastic wrapping and aluminum foil
* Drinks in containers that can be reused	* Poppas
* Snacks purchased in bulk and brought in reusable containers (e.g. Yogurt, chips, tiny teddies etc).	
* Cloth napkins, stainless steel forks and spoons	

Happy Waste Free Wednesday!!

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

**FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH TEAM**

## Library

### **Premier's Reading Challenge:**

Several more of our students have now completed their Reading Challenges. Well done to:

Jessica Gafa 1G	Emily Borg 1P	Andrew Suhaili 3B
Paulette Hourany 4S	Susan Sogora 4S	Charlie Rose Bartlett 5K
Valentine Sultana 5P	Annabel Darmali 5S	William Gafa 5W
Shanna Raj 6A	Hannah Walker 6E	Luke Eckersley 6J

All of these names will be added to our Lucky draw with the next book prize drawn at the end of May. When entering books online, remember to use the new passwords that were given out last week as the old ones will no longer work.

### **National Year of Reading:**

Quote for this newsletter : *"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

— [Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!](#)

### **Chess:**

Congratulations to all students who are playing in the Junior Chess League Inter School competition held on Fridays after school. So far we have managed to win a wonderful 12 ½ points out of a possible 16. Well done to all.

Judy Buhagiar  
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

## Nagle College

Nagle College are now accepting enrolment applications for Year 7, 2013. Please contact the Nagle College on 8887 4501.

## Sport

### **Cross Country**

Congratulations to the following student who attend the Zone Cross Country at Eastern Creek:

Ronald David	Jimmy Whelan	Riley Marsh
Breydan Koong	Andre Angulo	Tyren Miller
Naro Sanga	Emerson Barkowszoke	Claudia Estrada
Jasmine Stanley-Dawson	Ashleigh Witteveen	Tobey Lewis
Thomas O'Callaghan	Miguell Gara	Thomas Hurst
Lucas Tabone	Andrei Figueroa	Nosa Shata
Flavia Aya	Nikayla Tighe	Melissa Correia
Leelah Williams	Breannah Sherry	Ivan Radacic
Hayden Hunter	William Gafa	Jason Wormleaton
Geraldine Vella	Marcus Correia	Pius Baraji
Jessica Figueroa	Joanne Candor	Shanna Raj
Ernest Reece	Andrew Amabile	Nathan Aberra
Utkarsh Sharma	Izaak Xiberras	Rachael White
Scovia David	Georgia Tabone	Rahiel Abusador
Mariah Correia	Hannah Dickinson	Hayley Vella
Moya Inyasio		

## Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Primary Assembly on The 7th May 2012:

<b>3B</b> Cherise Bartolome Nikayla Tighe Nicholas Ward Jaidyn Dunn	<b>3C</b> Amanda Haddad Mitchell Eckersley Swaraj Parini Mariam Sefeen	<b>3D</b> Tushar Puthran Vanessa Salman Alexander Stanley-Dawson Gloria Cinya	<b>3S</b> Maddison Scerri Rosy Muscat Sharon Nogueiro Jordan Blaje
<b>4C</b> Rima Milan Alisha Depares Ravleen Kaur	<b>4E</b> Ashley Galea Salihah Khan Sevasti Kotrolos Taliyah Behrens	<b>4M</b> Ryan Santa Maria John Elomina Avigalle Mendoza Samantha San Luis	<b>4S</b> Celine Benicarlo Sage Andary Vansh Darji Nosa Shata
<b>5K</b> Charlie-Rose Bartlett Rafaela Safidi Egg Griffin Brooks Joshua Jbarat	<b>5P</b> Thomas Sultana Claudia DeBartolo Aglaya Papadokolakis Salim Touto	<b>5W</b> Tyren Miller Matthew Dudgeon Majorie Laquian	
<b>6A</b> Shanna Raj Joshua Lozada Domadius Meina	<b>6E</b> Anastasia Filcharova Marcelle Sader Roman Koong	<b>6C</b> Ella Cyreszko Georgia Tabone James Kinsella	<b>6J</b> Simrani Prasad Rolan Gonzales Ella Von Buren

## Jubilee Rose

To celebrate our Jubilee Year at St Michael's in 2012 we will have a specially badged rose, "The Rose of St Michael". We invite you to place your order for this special rose. The feature colour will be yellow as blue and yellow are our school colours. The rose will be in a 200mm black plastic pot with the possibility of an early bud depending on the weather conditions in September. You know how variable our weather has been lately.

We invite you to prepay your order so that Swanes (a well respected Nursery at Dural) can commence nurturing our special rose for September. We have an image created but know that this may not be totally accurate at this early stage. The cost for **The Rose of St Michael** is \$30.00 a normal standard nursery price.

✂-----

### JUBILEE ROSE

We (family name) ..... wish to purchase (No. of rose plants) ..... to celebrate our Jubilee Year.

My eldest child (name of child) ..... is in class .....  
Enclosed is my payment of \$30.00

Signed: .....

