



St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2012—ISSUE 13

21ST AUGUST 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AUGUST

Wed 22nd	Maths Olympiad
Fri 24th	Diocesan Athletics Carnival - Blacktown Sportspark
"	Australian Youth Choir visiting years 2-6
Sat 25th	National Year of Reading - Read Hour - 6-7pm
Mon 27th	Primary Assembly - 4S & 4E presenting - 2.15pm
Wed 29th	Fathers' Day Stall
Thurs 30th	Book Fair
"	Fathers' Day Liturgy
Fri 31st	Book Fair
"	Kindergarten Excursion to Taronga Zoo

SEPTEMBER

Sun 2nd	Father's Day
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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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Note going home with this
Newsletter:

- Emme Emu Maths
- Catholic Care Services
- Fathers' Day Stall

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,

REMINDER STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY FRIDAY, 7th September 2012 No staff will be on site

STAGE 3 CHILDREN AT ST MICHAEL'S "SHINE"

Over the last week our senior students demonstrated high levels of skill, knowledge and understanding. They also exhibited high levels of maturity and positive attitude.

In the first instance Year 6 children completed a period of "Public Speaking" through the "Voice of Youth" learning experience. Our seniors all delivered speeches in class groups and from this 3 students went on to our in house presentation.

Our children at all stages spoke with confidence, presenting speeches that demonstrated deep understanding of their topics.

Our school then participated in a local Voice of Youth competition. On your behalf I congratulate our 4 representatives who represented our school at the Cluster Finals:

Jumana Khan, Nicholas Urludag, Tianna Armstrong and reserve Ella Cyreszko.

Last Friday our Year 5 children and their teachers travelled to Bathurst as part of our "Gold" unit. Children once again demonstrated high levels of knowledge and deep understanding around the "History of Gold Discovery in Australia" as well as the qualities of gold and its geological history.

I was very proud of our students behavior and the respect they showed to the staff of "Bathurst Gold".

These results and events speak loudly of the work of our teachers both in the "Leading of Learning" and in supporting the individual needs of our children.

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL



From the Assistant Principal

Today at St Michael's we are taking part in an Educational Compliance Audit. Members of the Catholic Education Office and colleague teachers from across the diocese visit St Michael's to confirm alignment between Board of Studies requirements, KLA scope and sequence, teachers' programs of work, student work samples, assessment tasks and reporting. We are confident that the efforts of our dedicated teachers will be commended. If there are recommendations we will take these on board as we continually strive to make St Michael's not just a "good" school but an "outstanding" school for our children.

Father's Day Liturgy is fast approaching. Mark it in your diaries as
Thursday 30th August from 7.30am for Barbeque and 8.30am for Liturgy.

All dads and children welcome

This liturgy and BBQ tradition commenced 8 years ago with about 20 dads joining us, we now cater for over 100 dads. This year as it is the National Year of Reading we are asking that you **send in a picture of your child with their dad reading** together, if this is not available then please just send a picture of your child with their dad. Remember to reply to the invitation to attend this event so that we know how many we are catering for.

Looking forward to seeing our dads at school.

Helen Boyer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RE News

The gospel passage on last Sunday and next Sunday continues the 'Bread of Life' discourse that we have been following through the Gospel of John. Christ is present in the Eucharist in many forms: in the people gathered; in the celebrating priest; in the Word proclaimed; and in the consecrated bread and wine – the Body and Blood of Christ. In relation to receiving Christ through the reception of communion, St Augustine wrote, 'Be what you see, and receive what you are.' We not only receive the Body of Christ through Eucharist, we are called to be the Body of Christ because of what we have received; and we receive the Body of Christ because we are already part of the Body of Christ.

In a world that is obsessed with health and fitness and yet, ironically, also experiencing an ever-increasing overweight and obese population, what we eat has come under greater scrutiny than ever before. 'You are what you eat' has become a catchcry for healthy eating but Catholics have known the truth of this statement for centuries. When we participate in the Eucharist, we not only receive the body of Christ; we become the body of Christ. The people who make up the Church in the world are indeed the body of Christ. In the words of St Teresa, 'Christ has no body now but yours!'

Anne Easton
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Canteen

Please make sure you are using **Blue Price List Term 2**. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest amount even if it means they have to have a sandwich. Price Lists are in the student foyer, canteen and are also available to print from our school website. Thank you. **Please also note that St Michael's is a Egg, Peanut and Nutella free school.**

Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER
Home Phone: 9622 5703

Library

CHESSE

Our 3 Chess Teams did extremely well in the recent Inter School challenge held on Friday afternoons.

Teams A and B played 10 rounds, while Team C had 7 rounds.

Team A finished with 24.5 points. The closest team to them has 20 points, but still has 3 game scores to be added.

Team B finished with 25 points. The winner had 26 points. We were so close!

Team C has 17.5 points. The next team has 17 points with 1 game score to add.

Congratulations to all players. It looks like we will finish 2nd in all divisions. A BIG thankyou to all parents and Teachers who drove the players to the various venues. The children really appreciated the opportunities to compete against other schools.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students who have completed their reading challenge. Well done.

Andre Arredondo - 1M

Rachedi Azar - 1M

Matthew Borg - 1M

Tristan Borja - 1M

Annabelle Castillo - 1M

Faith Claye - 1M

Aimee Gatt - 1M

Tahleah Robinson - 3S

Sharon Nogueiro - 3S

Emily Hartsuyker - 5K

Joanne Candor - 6A

The time for reading ends on Friday 31st August, but I would like all reading to be completed by Wednesday 29th so that I can process and validate records to enable certificates to be prepared.

According to my records, 113 students have completed tier challenges, 66 have started entering their books, but still need to finish, and approximately another 150 students who registered have not even started entering their reading. If this is because you have lost your password, please see me as soon as possible, so you can still be eligible for a certificate at the end of the year.

BOOK FAIR: There will be a slight change to the dates advertised in the last newsletter to avoid conflict with the Fathers' Day Stall. The Book Fair will now sell books at the following times:

Tuesday 28th August 8.30 – 9am and 2.45 – 3.30
 Wednesday 29th August NO BOOK FAIR – FATHERS' DAY Stall
 Thursday 30th August 8.30 – 9am and 2.45 – 3.30
 Friday 31st August 8.30 – 9am The Book Fair will then be packed up. No sales after 9am.

Classes will have the opportunity to preview the books before selling starts. There will be limited numbers of books available from \$2. Most will be from \$5 to \$15, so are good value.

Please do not feel obliged to purchase books. Sometimes I hear that children have gone home saying they "have" to have money to buy a book. This is not so. We have a Book Fair every year, and if you don't want to purchase books every time, that is OK. Maybe next year.

READING HOUR: Next Saturday 25th August has been designated as a day to celebrate Reading around Australia. The Reading Hour is nominally 6pm to 7pm, but reading can take place at any time. Many events are planned throughout the day. Check local newspapers, councils, and Libraries to see if they are holding special activities.

Studies show that if you read regularly to and with your children, they will have the best chance of becoming a good reader, with all the social and educational benefits that brings. Find out more at the following websites.

<http://www.thereadinghour.org.au/>

<http://love2read2012.wikispaces.com/Reading+Hour>

INFANTS BOOK WEEK PERFORMANCE: Unfortunately, the performance scheduled for last week had to be postponed due to illness. Infants classes will now view this performance on Tuesday 4th September. This performance relates to the books that were nominated for awards for Book Week. The children have read and enjoyed these books, so should benefit greatly from this experience.

Judy Buhagiar
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a **CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT** at the **WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY** on 13th August 2012:

KC	KB	KS	KW
Andrea Leo	Luke Fletcher	Adam D'sa	Ronnie Sanga
Jia Chung	Tabitha Cilia	Brooke Dudgeon	Roba Basha
1G	1M	1O	1P
Oliver Vella	Nikhil Saldanha	Emily Abbas	Shayden Fernandes
Kimberley Quai-Hoi	Emma Santa Maria	Joachim Tabone	Eril Velasquez
2L	2G	2H	2S
Nathaniel Darmali	Maggie Grills	Samuel Regan	Anthony Siderides
Liam Cruz	Nicholas Nilon	Ioanna Hatziandreu	Viktoria Vidovic
3B	3C	3D	3S
Tahlia Lewis	Mina Kassis	Gloria Cinya	Emma Depares
Hayden Eato	Stella Lellis	Lorenzo Estil	Krystal Sultana
4C	4E	4M	4S
Ivana Zlendich	Jose Sapitula	Eric Tripathi	Luke Osborne
Angelina Malak	Sevasti Kotrolos	Ryan Santa Maria	Mika Langsley
5K	5P	5S	5W
Briana Car	Montanna Farquharson	Sebastian Rouss	William Gafa
Lachlan Stack	Jaiden Muscat	Aretha Iskandar	Kassandra Schipp
6A	6E	6C	6J
Noah Chen	Nathan Aberra	Claudia Alessi	Luke Eckersley
Hannah Jo Chiha	Thea Abdelseed	Rachel White	Simrani Prasad

A very big CONGRATULATIONS to Kristina Markovic who has been selected to receive a 2012 Commended Award for Excellence in Student Achievement - Community Languages Schools for the study of Croatian. This award will be presented to Kristina at the University of New South Wales on 3rd September.

MATHS STARS FOR TERM 3:

Joshua Lin - 5P	Michelle Lin - 6J	Ryan Santa Maria - 4M	Emily Borg - 1P
Ravleen Kaur - 4C	Vishal Kumar - 5K	Nicholas Bear - 5K	Matthew Markovic - 3B
Joshua Pinto - 2H	Marina Ibrahim - 1O	Isaiah Espero - KS	Emma Santa Maria - 1M
Krystal Sultana - 3S	Kristina Markovic - 5P	Marina Ibrahim - 1O	Cherise Bartolome - 3B
Emma Depares - 3S			

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YEAR 6 VOICE OF YOUTH CLASS FINALISTS:**6A**

Nicholas Urludag
 Mariah Correia
 Joshua Lozada

6J

Jonathan Tabone
 Michelle Lin
 James Antonios

6E

Tianna Armstrong
 Jumana Khan
 Hannah Walker

6C

Ella Cyreszko
 Hannah Dickinson
 Georgia Tabone

Office News

Attention all Parents - Notice of intention to remove students from St Michael's School

The Catholic Education Office has developed a Policy relating to the notice required from parents to terminate their children's enrolment in the schools of the Parramatta Diocese. In part this states that

"A terms notice (10 weeks) in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be paid. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term."

This means that unless the school receives a term's notice no pro rata adjustment will be given for part term tuition.

Term 3 School Fees

Term 3 school fees were due on 17th August. Thank you to those who have already paid.

If you have any concerns please contact Robyn Hoogenvest to discuss making an arrangement for payment.

Learning Technology at St Michael's

2012 has been an *exciting year* for St Michael's in regards to our learning and growth in technology.

We are now apart of social networking, having our own *Facebook Page* (St Michaels Blacktown South) and *Twitter* account (StMichaels2148). Many classes have become official bloggers, sharing what they are learning about in class on our new *Student Blog page* (access on St Michael's school website: Student Blog). This year we have been involved in the CEO *Movie Making program*.

Students have learnt to use the professional camera to create polished movies. We have also purchased new audio equipment, to improve sound quality on our movies. Students in the Movie Making team have learnt new skills in *script writing, story boarding, directing and editing*. We will continue to improve our knowledge and skills in this area across the school. **New Technology!** Our school has purchased **40 new MacBook Pro laptops** to be shared throughout the school. In addition, we have purchased an **iPad for each classroom**. These tools will aid students learning across all Key Learning Areas, making learning more accessible. Classrooms all now have modern headphones and Rockstar splitters, enabling teachers to have small groups work on literacy activities with the iPod's and laptops. **Encouraging engagement and interaction**. All classrooms have cameras connected to the Interactive Whiteboards allowing children to share their work with the whole class immediately, **building confidence in our students**. St Michaels is an amazing school with amazing students, parents and staff. We strive to engage, empower and reflect in all areas of our school. We will continue to stay current in technology and improve our student's skills.



Jennifer Coope
 Learning Technology Coordinator (LTC)

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.

P & F News

The Woolworth Earn and Learn Promotion has now ended, and St Michael's exceeded every expectation collecting over 53,000 stickers. A very big thank you to all who took the time to send their sticker charts in, your contribution will earn some great mathematics equipment for our kids.

Our Spring Fair is on **Saturday, 27th October 2012** and ride passes are on sale now. You can either send your money and form with your child to school or purchase ride passes outside the Open Learning Centre each afternoon between 2.30 and 3.00pm. The competition for a class pizza party is still running with the tally so far standing at:

1st place: 2H 2nd place: 5K 3rd place: 5W

So help your class win and buy your tickets early. We are still after stallholders for the Spring Fair, so if you would like to run your own stall please call Marisa on 0412 662 393.

Jenny Warn - P & F PRESIDENT

