



St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2012—ISSUE 11

24 JULY 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JULY

Wed 25th	Maths Olympiad
Mon 30th	SCHOOL PHOTOS
"	Primary Assembly - 4C & 4M presenting - 2.15pm
Tues 31st	ICAS English Competition

AUGUST

Wed 1st	Healthy Harold - MUFTI DAY
"	P & F General Meeting - 7pm
Thurs 9th	School Voice of Youth
Fri 10th	Year 4 Excursion to Observatory and Sydney Walking Tour
Mon 13th	Whole School Assembly - 2.15pm
Tues 14th	ICAS Mathematics Competition
"	Blacktown Zone Athletics
Wed 15th	Whole School Mass for Feast of Assumption

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:

- Term 3 Planner
- P&F Lunch Order Wallet Fundraiser
- Australia's Youth Self-Defence Karate

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,

**Celebrating 50 years of Education only needs one more thing and that is YOU...
Consider how you can join in the fun. Why not get your friends together
and join us on the 14th September at our Dinner?**

St Michael's Year 6 Shine in the Nations Capital

Last week I had the great pleasure to spend two days with our Year 6 children and members of our teaching team.

I would like to share some reflections and insights that support everything that our **"Mission and Vision"** speak of, that is to **ENGAGE, EMPOWER and REFLECT**.

This two day teaching and learning event required a great deal from our children.

At the Electoral Office, Parliament House and the CSIRO Centre our children were required to demonstrate high levels of skill in listening, speaking, comprehending and thinking. At all times our children responded accurately to questions and challenges put to them by a variety of department officials.

Staying overnight is always an exciting time for our senior students. Once again I was particularly impressed by their maturity in working with catering staff and in **"getting some level of sleep"**.

Probably one of the highlights of our trip is the visit to the **Australian War Memorial**. As you can imagine this famous landmark evokes a great deal of emotion. Our children's response to this **history** and **sacredness** of this monument was outstanding once again they demonstrated real **empathy** and **compassion** for the stories that unfolded during their visit.

All in all these fine young children are a credit to themselves and their families.

But it doesn't end there, during this period of time I observed closely the work of my colleagues. As you would understand to take 109 children away overnight required great **skill, knowledge and compassion**.

During this time I witnessed my colleagues support, guide, instruct and protect our children.

Over these two days I witnessed my colleagues work as a team, supporting each other, continuously sharing the load of a 24/7 responsibility. I also saw them have the time of their lives with our children, laughing and enjoying the "silly stuff". For me these are the "golden moments" of our job simply being in touch with the most precious people in the world....**CHILDREN**.

On your behalf I thank and bless all teachers on this occasion I particularly wish to acknowledge: Anne Easton, Tina Barbutto, Jenni Coope, Anne-Marie Abrahams, Jo Lawson, Julia Reaidi, Charlotte Gourlie, Coley White. I also sincerely thank Mrs Lynne Campbell for her work in coordinating not just this event but all school excursions. **WHAT A TEAM!**

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL

From the Assistant Principal

The year of JUBILEE. What does that mean for us now at St Michael's? It is a time for celebrating, remembering and sharing. A school in this diocese celebrating 50 years of Catholic Education is quite a milestone.

Who was the first child enrolled at the school?

Who was the first Principal?

Who were the teachers?

How many students were there?

Who was the first secretary?

What involvement did the parents have, was there a P & F?

Has the motto always been "love one another"?

Have the school colours always been blue and yellow?

Who was the Parish Priest?

Was there a canteen?

What did the children write with and what did they write on?

How did most children get to school?

These are just some of the questions I would love to know the answers to. If you have had a long connection with the school maybe you will know the answers. Please share the answers with me.

Maybe you have questions of your own you would like to find the answers to. Please ask them and maybe we will all learn together.

Write down your stories and questions and send them in to me.

This term let's really join together to make the celebrations on the 14th September and the 19th September a wonderful memory for ourselves and the current wonderful students of St Michael's.

REMINDER: Please respond to our invitations to the events on the 14th September by the 10th August.

Helen Boyer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RE News

In next Sunday's Gospel we hear the story of Jesus feeding the 5000. Jesus is described as testing the disciples, asking them where they might be able to purchase bread for the crowd. They are overwhelmed at the thought of spending a fortune on enough bread for more than 5,000 people. A small boy nearby had a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, gave thanks and then had the disciples begin to distribute the food. When everyone had eaten their fill, the disciples collected twelve hampers of leftovers.

The feeding of the multitude is a profoundly political statement. Quite simply, there is sufficient food in our world to ensure that no one should ever be hungry. Sadly, the distribution of that food is such that there are some in our world whose bellies are expanding from an excess of food while others' are distended from the lack of it. We can easily feed the entire world. It is the responsibility of those of us in the developed world with more than we need to bring about a more equitable distribution with those who don't even have enough to live.

Anne Easton
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Canteen

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you all had a restful holiday. We are using the Blue Price List - Term 2. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest amount. **Reminder: St Michael's is a Peanut, Nutella and Egg Free school.**

We need some reserves for our roster. You could be called as late as 9.00am as some times we are called late. If you can help please call 9622 5703 after 4.00pm or call in to the canteen. **Thursday Roster:** Please call Geny Cleary on 9621 2558 if you cant make your rostered day. Thanks for your support.

Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER
Home Phone: 9622 5703

Library

Premier's Reading Challenge: Congratulations to the following students who have now finished their challenges.

Isabelle Grills - KS

Ryan Depares - KB

Moriah Urmeneta - 1M

Aaron Dela Rosa - 1M

Maggie Grills - 2G

Madelyn Attard - 2G

Nathaniel Darmali - 2L

Elizabeth Grills - 4C

Ryan Santa Maria - 4M

Ashna Varma - 5S

Lachlan Stack - 5K

Your names will now be put into the lucky draw for a Book Prize at the end of July.

Book Club: Book Club brochures will be going out this week. The closing date is Wednesday 1st August. No late orders can be accepted, so if you wish to order, please make sure all orders and money are sent to the Library by then.

Book Week: The Children's Book Council of Australia celebrate books by nominating a week in August each year when Libraries all around Australia focus on books and reading. As 2012 is also the National Year of Reading, we will be having special events and competitions at St Michael's Library.

As usual we will have a **Book Fair** with books again provided by Central Book Suppliers. This will take place in the Library from Wednesday 29th until Friday 31st August. More information in the next Newsletter.

Each grade will have a **competition** with a focus on one of the shortlisted books. These will be on display in the next few weeks and everyone is most welcome to call in to the Library to look at the wonderful work. Best entries will receive a book prize.

As this term is also Olympics time, I will be holding a **Reading Olympics**. Infants will complete a Triathlon, Year 3 and 4, a Pentathlon, and Years 5 and 6, a Heptathlon. Recording sheets will be given out soon and more information can be found on the Library website – stmblibrary.wikispaces.com.

All entries received by the end of week 9 will go in the draw for book prizes.

Judy Buhagiar
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Infants Assembly on Monday, 23rd July 2012:

KC Bree Moon Joseph Gaid Cyrus Charles Andrea Leo	KB Jemma Kinnane-Pearce Tatiana Malesevic Dante Carbone Joshua Attard	KS Luis Valderrama Anastasia Parnis Jelaine Magayaga Jenille Calingao	KW Harrison Coleman Isaac Galea Ronnie Sanga Riley Xerri
1G Jessica Gafa Prem Mondeddu Anthony Cannizzaro Sami Sader	1M Aaron Dela Rosa Rachedi Azar Anika Kumar Mariah Urmeneta	1O Cheriedan Arias Adam Cruz Jayden Cassar Joseph Abdalla	1P Emily Borg Madeleine Tabone Ebony Mafi Drae Andary
2L Assaad Abdallah Andre Cruz Janelle Rossi Shanelle Agon	2G Seth Williams Tijana Sammut Matthew Wormleaton	2H Jack Cadorin Marjan Khan Jasmine Attard Marina Simic	2S Leilani Balewai Pavithran Visakeswaran Adarsh Varma Alana Milic

Sport

Congratulations to the following students who will participate in the Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival on Tuesday, 14th August:

Flavia Ava Jessica Figueroa Aglaya Papadokokolakis Sophia Sogora Andrew Amabile Aaron Cairns Hayden Hunter Jing Lual Earnest Reec Jimmy Whelan	Mariah Correia Lily Hardman Shanna Raj Jasmine Stanley-Dawson James Antonios Maximilian Cyreszko Breydan Koong Riley Marsh Andrew Roseby Christian Williams	Melissa Correia Opia Inyasio Marcelle Sader Geraldine Vella Vincent Aquino Matthew Dudgeon Brandon Law Thomas O'Callaghan Sebastian Rouss	Scovia David Georgia Koutoulas Nosa Shata Rachel White Anton Bellett William Gafa Tobey Lewis Johnny Papadimatos Connor Scerri
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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.

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.

National Capital Education Tourism Project

Year 6 Canberra Excursion - 19th/20th July 2012

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital. To assist parents in meeting the cost of the excursion the Government has contributed \$20 per student towards the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to our school.

We would like to thank the Department of Education Science and Training, the Department of Transport and Regional Services for their support of this initiative. As part of this initiative students will be participating in projects that utilize the excursion and focus on either the history of our democracy, contributing to their local community or developing active leadership skills.

Office News

SCHOOL FEES: Term 3 fee invoices have been issued and payment is due by 17th August. Please contact the office if you have not received your invoice. If you have difficulty paying by the due date, please contact Robyn Hoogenest.

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.

P & F News

The next P&F General Meeting will be held on the Wednesday, 1st August at 7.00pm. Thank you to all those parents and friends who have already offered their help, but we really do need more assistance, so if you can contribute in anyway please come along we are happy to have you.

The Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion has been extended until the 12th August. We have over 24,000 stickers so far and are well on our way to purchasing much needed resources for our children.

As of week 3, we will have a new lost property box. To ensure safe return of lost items the box will be locked and sorted once a week. All labeled items will be returned to their owners and unlabeled items will go to the Uniform Shop.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL YOUR CHILDREN'S CLOTHING IS LABELED BY END OF THIS WEEK.

Jenny Warn

PRESIDENT

Friends of Our Earth

Battery World Blacktown

Battery Recycling Program

BATTERY WORLD at Blacktown (55 Richmond Road, Blacktown) have approached St Michael's about an exciting new initiative. They would like to help the school recycle old and unwanted batteries- **SAFELY**.

In coming weeks representatives from the store will be coming into the school to educate our community on how best to recycle batteries, and how they are able to help us when recycling bigger batteries, including car batteries.

We might even get a visit from 'Battery Man'!! Keep your eyes on this page for more information!

NNN Meeting: **REMINDER:** Our Term 3 meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st July, 2012 at 3:15pm in the FKD Open Learning Space. All welcome. Bring along your ideas regarding any environmental issues, recycling/ composting ideas clothes and property labeling, gardening solutions etc. Hope to see you there.

Waste Free Wednesday will again make an appearance during Term 3. This was a popular initiative that the students of St Michael embraced. We are looking forward to its return. Date to be advised later this term.

LOST PROPERTY: Please be vigilant in labeling your child's school property including: jumpers, jackets, hats, drink bottles, lunch boxes, pencil cases etc. It is much easier to hand back a jumper or jacket if it is clearly labeled. Thank you for your support.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Friends of Our Earth

REMINDER: School Photos next Monday, 30th July - students must come to school in full WINTER uniform. Students must bring in their PHOTO ENVELOPE and hand to the PHOTOGRAPHER on the day.



