



St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2013 — ISSUE 8

4 JUNE 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE

Wed 5th	ICAS - Science Competition
Fri 7th	2G & 2L Excursion to Old Rouse Hill School Sacred Heart Mass - 9.30am
Thurs 13th	Parent Forum - 9.30am
Fri 14th	Cross Country - Eastern Creek
Mon 17th	Writing Competition
Tues 18th	Spelling Competition P&F Meeting - 7pm
Mon 24th	Reports sent home
Tues 25th	Primary Athletics Carnival Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed 26th	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Fri 28th	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY Pupil Free Day

JULY

Mon 15th	TERM 3 commences
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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

155 Reservoir Road
Blacktown South 2148
Ph: 9622 9910
Fax: 9622 6902
Website:
www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au
Email:
stmichaelsbktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN
Wednesday mornings
8.15am - 11.00am

If you are unable to come to the Uniform Shop during these hours you can place an order and pay at the office and your items will be sent home with your child.

From the Principal

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2014

Please collect an Enrolment Form from office or download off our website.

SACRED HEART MASS: Friday, 7th June - 9.30am
P & F MEETING: Tuesday, 18th June - 7pm
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS: Tuesday/Wednesday, 25th & 26th June
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY: Friday, 28th June 2013

Dear Parents and Friends,

"Give them something to eat yourselves"

Faced with feeding the 5000 the apostles must have been surprised and somewhat perplexed by Jesus' response. Jesus was letting them know that he had faith not only in the love of his Father, but that he too believed in his apostles. In many ways Jesus was preparing his closest followers for their future lives as evangelists, as missionaries.



But his words speak to us today. Through our Baptism as children of God, we are constantly being invited to, "Give them something of ourselves". As a community, our response is constantly to place ourselves in support and service to each other, ensuring that our children will not just hear our pledge of Loving One Another, but see it constantly lived out.

K-2 REFURBISHMENT

We are currently working closely with our Architects and Builders in the planning of the refurbishment of Block B (Kinder and Yr 1). This refurbishment will include new carpets, doors, painting and some new storage units. We are hoping that this work will be undertaken during our next holiday break but this is to be confirmed.

Our primary learning spaces are proceeding at a great rate. This week foundations and brick work are starting to take shape.

More importantly, teachers and students are growing in their understanding of Co-teaching and are experiencing the many positive gains from working, teaching and learning in a collaborative, enriched learning space.

Co-teaching occurs when two or more teachers assume the responsibility for teaching a single group of students, usually in the general education classroom. This teaching arrangement requires that educators learn to work together in a collaborative relationship.

Requirements for teacher to move on to Co-teaching:

- ⇒ Must establish a mutual goal for collaboration.
- ⇒ Determine their working relationship.
- ⇒ Understand this is just a stage and that their efforts make a difference.
- ⇒ Must build a level of trust while compromising.
- ⇒ Must be honest in their interactions.
- ⇒ Must continue to practice the collaboration skills they have learned.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

This period of our school year is without doubt, the most important. Our teaching teams have spent many hours planning assessments, attending case management meetings and working within professional triads, supported by school leaders and system specialists. All this work has one core goal: "ensuring the growth of all children".

I urge you to support this work by attending Parent/Teacher Interviews and bringing to these meetings your observations, questions and hopes for your child's future.

Regards



John Laffan
PRINCIPAL

Assistant Principal Report

The Australian English Curriculum

Stage 2 - Stage statements pp19

"Students independently read, view and respond to familiar and challenging texts and justify interpretations of ideas, information and events using a range of skills and strategies. Students identify literal information in texts and make inferences, integrating and linking ideas and asking questions to clarify understandings."

The third level of reading - "Fluent Readers"

At this level, students identify words with greater skill and ease. Fluent readers have an extensive bank of sight words. They are able to decode words easily and so are able to focus more on reading for meaning.

These students need to have many opportunities to read a variety of texts to improve their fluency and accuracy. Well developed fluency and accuracy allows the students to be able to enjoy the reading experience and improve their comprehension.

In the early years of reading, students "learn how to read". Once they become fluent readers they are "reading to learn". The students need to be exposed to longer texts with more complex concepts, illustrations and layout. At this level they are able to question and analyse what is read and therefore deepen their understanding and learning.

Students move through these levels of emergent, early and independent readers at different rates. It is important to be aware of each level and support each student individually as they progress along the reading journey. Exciting isn't it!

Well winter has arrived and we think of those who are in need of warmth. This Friday as we celebrate the Mass of the Sacred Heart we use the money from our mufti day last week to buy blankets and donate these to the St Vincent De Paul Society. Thank you to the Student Leadership Team for organising this event. The student leaders also organised and led the Whole School Assembly last week. Well done and congratulations team: Nicholas Bear, Montanna Farquharson, Luke Barber, Esconder Fozi, Joshua Lin and Annabel Darmali.

Congratulations to the students who participated in the ICAS Computer test:

Ciara Haddad	Joshua Pinto	Matthew Wormleaton	Leilani Balewai
Janbaz Saddhar	Anthony Siderides	Ava Sowsun	Auyon Bhaumik
Brendan Fares	Shanelle Raj	Hayley Haddad	Lorenzo Domingo
Tushar Puthran	Lucas Tabone	Shaena Yu	Natasha Khan
Taylah Henderson	Salihah Khan	Brian Fares	Eric Tripathi
Jessica Yew	Dev Patel	Owen Walker	Hannah Harvey
Achol Mau	Vanessa Abouhamad	Blake Bano	Marjorie Laquian

The next ICAS test is Science on Wednesday, 5th June.

Practice tests are available. For more information on ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas

Helen Boyer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RE News

Last Sunday was the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ and celebrates the central celebration of our faith – the Eucharist. All three readings related to this Eucharistic theme. In the second reading, we heard the first written account of the Last Supper and what came to be seen as Jesus instigating the Eucharist. Paul's account, written well before the Gospels, was entrenched in the tradition of the time. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke echoed these words of Jesus at the Last Supper. Of course, it is these same words that are spoken by the priest at the consecration in the Eucharistic Prayer each Mass. The words used today are the very same words that have been used in the Church for such a very long time. Rather than a Gospel account of the Last Supper to celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, we were presented with what is widely regarded as another 'Eucharistic' story from the Gospel of Luke. The feeding of the five thousand with five loaves and two fish is regarded as a Eucharistic story because it was a clear example of God's presence in a miraculous meal. The Gospel writer uses meals to demonstrate who is welcome in the kingdom of God. Like in Sunday's Gospel, the author of Luke's Gospel was keen to show that the Kingdom of God is available to anyone who wishes to be a part of it. The Kingdom of God is inclusive and welcoming; no one will be turned away.

Thank you to everyone who participated in last week's Mufti Day, we raised \$850.00 for St Vincent de Paul. On Friday, at our Sacred Heart Mass, we will present 28 blankets and a cheque for \$250.00 to St Michael's St Vincent de Paul Society. Please feel most welcome to attend Mass on Friday, 7th June at 9.30am in the Church.

Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR

Office News

TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES are now due. Thank you if you have already paid. If you have any concerns please contact Robyn Hoogenvest to discuss making an arrangement for payment.

Library News

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE: Congratulations to Brooklyn Stack of 2X and Andrew Roseby of 4M who have both completed their Reading Challenges. Well done to both of you.

CHESS: Both of our Chess teams are continuing to learn as they go through the rostered rounds of the after school Chess Competition.

Team A has scored 13 ½ out of a possible 16 points. This is a great result.

Team B has many new players, but are still having some wins and draws. It is a great experience for our Newbies who are learning and improving each week. So far they have scored 7 points with quite a few draws which earn ½ point each time. This week – Friday 7th June – is a bye for the A Team. The B team plays against Rooty Hill Public School. Please check your draw to see if you are playing as are a reserve.

Judy Buhagiar

TEACHER LIBRARIAN

Sports News

Congratulations to Lily Hardman who has been nominated for the Blacktown Advocate Junior Sports Star Award and recently had an article about her included in the paper. We are all very proud of her dedication to her sport and the National titles are definitely on our sporting calendar so we can count down with her and then cheer her on.

If anybody has any old St Michael's sporting uniforms at home could I encourage you to please bring them into school.

Years 3 – 6 Athletics Carnival notes will come home this week with it's date being Tuesday, 25th June with our aim being fun and participation.

A reminder to all students to keep bringing hats to PE as the sun's rays can be just as damaging in winter.

Mr. McKimm / Mr. Phillips
PE/SPORT TEACHERS

RUGBY LEAGUE:

On Wednesday, 22nd May, St Michael's sent the following young men to represent our school at the Panther Trophy Gala Day:

Griffin Brooks	Bailey Young	Ramey Abu Ganaba	Salim Touto
Matthew Faaumu	Jim Abdulla	Rames Abu Ganaba	Jayden Tighe
Mason Stralow	Nicholas Bear	Hayden Hunter	Luke Barber
Tyren Miller	Aaron Collins	Paul Cutmore	Jimmy Whelan
Angelo Yazbek			

In the lead up to the gala day the boys received expert guidance from Mr. Williams in Term 1 at training sessions and this expert guidance continued in Term 2 at training sessions under the tutelage of parents Mr. Bear and Mr. Barber.

On the day the boys played four, hard fought encounters, against talented opposition, learning about the highs and lows that can be associated with this great game.

Game 1 vs. Holy Family Emerton: Lost 8 – 4 Try Scorer: Hayden Hunter

Game 2 vs. Bligh Park PS: Won 8 – 0 Try Scorers: Hayden Hunter, Salim Touto

Game 3 vs. St Mary's North PS: Lost 12 – 0

Game 4 vs. St Monica's: Lost 8 – 6 Try Scorers: Salim Touto
Conversions: 1/1 Salim Touto

Appreciation must be extended to our coaches, Mr Barber and Mr Bear, who led the boys through the day and our parents, who provided wonderful support.

Mr. McKimm

BOYS STAGE 3 FOOTBALL GALA DAY REPORT - 28th May 2013:

On this day the following boys travelled to Anne Aquilina Reserve to represent St Michael's:

Mark Cassis	Anthony Simic	Julian Cefai	Vishal Kumar
William Gafa (C)	Marcus Correia (VC)	Matthew Dudgeon	Jacob Borg
Andre Angulo	Jayden Muscat	Jacob Ostler	Blake Graham
Christian Canales	Jing Lual		

They were outstanding ambassadors for their school and ultimately were rewarded with the title of champions, on a count back, after finishing equal first. Here is a summary of each game:

Game 1 vs. Trinity: Result: Lost 1 – 0 Man of the match: Blake Graham

Game 2 vs. Sacred Heart White: Result: Won 3 – 0 Goal Scorers: William Gafa (2), Matthew Dudgeon
Man of the match: Jayden Muscat

Game 3 vs. St. Joseph's: Result: Won 3 – 0 Goal Scorers: Anthony Simic, Matthew Dudgeon, Julian Cefai
Man of the match: Anthony Simic

Game 4 vs. OLOL: Result: Won 3 – 1 Goal Scorers: William Gafa (2), Julian Cefai
Man of the match: William Gafa

Game 5 vs. St Angela's: Result: Won 2 – 0 Goal Scorers: Jacob Borg, Marcus Correia
Man of the match: Jacob Borg

Game 6 vs. St Mary's: Result: Won 1 – 0 Goal Scorer: Marcus Correia
Man of the match: Matthew Dudgeon

The boys won 5 and lost 1 scoring 12 goals for and only conceding two against. They got better with each game but more importantly they were great sports that never ever stopped trying.

Mr. McKimm

