



ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

St. Michael's Primary School
155 Reservoir Road
Blacktown NSW 2148
Ph: 9622 9910 Fax: 9622 6902

Volume 2011 Issue 7
17th May 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

As our academic year unfolds there is a tremendous positive energy within our school community. There are so many initiatives being undertaken that are supporting success of student outcomes and the living out of our Mission Statement.

The Key Learning Areas of Mathematics and Religion continue to be examined through our core teams. In Mathematics, Mr Crowley and Mrs McHugh shared new teaching skills and rationale around improving student skills in counting, Mathematical thinking and language.

One simple learning reminds us to support Mathematical computation with Visual support. The use of counters, dice, dominoes etc. are essential in building confidence when manipulating numbers.

In Religion, Mrs Easton will lead the community in reviewing "Sharing Our Story" units. The emphasis in Term 2 will be how we are assessing growth and understanding through creative/open assessment tasks.

The other area of professional learning in Religion will focus on the key messages behind the Scripture. As religious educators we will spend time looking at our response to the Questions:-

What is Jesus telling us?
What is God asking us to do?

As well as this work our Leading Learners are also supporting school growth through:-

- ◆ Purchasing new IT equipment (Laptops and iPads) \$25,000
- ◆ Continuing in re-writing of HSIE and Science & Technology units
- ◆ Development of Literacy Core Team's understanding of ongoing assessment
- ◆ Creative Arts Expo
- ◆ St Michael's School Choir
- ◆ Representative Sporting Events

And so you see when I talk about positive creative energy the source of this energy is found within a high professional team working with brilliant children.

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL



School Website:
www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au
Email:
stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

MAY

<i>Mon</i> 23rd	Whole School Assembly—2.15pm
<i>Tues</i> 24th	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
"	ICAS—Computer Test
<i>Thurs</i> 26th	2012 Kindergarten Enrolment meetings commence
<i>Mon</i> 30th	Primary Assembly—2.15pm—5P presenting
<i>Tues</i> 31st	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day

JUNE

<i>Thurs</i> 2nd	Musica Viva INFANTS
<i>Fri</i> 3rd	NSWCPS Cross Country
<i>Mon</i> 6th	Infants Assembly—2.15pm—2F presenting
<i>Wed</i> 8th	ICAS—Science test
<i>Fri</i> 10th	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (Pupil Free Day)

St. Michael's Church
Orwell Street,
Blacktown South

MASS Times:
Sat. Vigil—6.00pm
Sunday—8.00am, 9.30am, 6.00pm
Weekdays—8.00am
Wednesday Evening—7.30pm
1st Friday-7.30pm Ph:9622 9149
www.stmichaelsparish.com

GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ 1-2-3 Magic—Discipline that works for 2-10 year olds
- ◆ Invitation—Insights and strategies for working across the generational divide
- ◆ P & F News

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY (Pupil Free Day)

Friday, 10th June 2011

Teachers will be participating in Professional Development—Understanding by Design



ENROLMENTS 2012

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2012. If your child turns 5 before the 31st July 2012 please collect an Enrolment Form from the office or via our Website:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au.

When forms are completed please come to the office with copies of all relevant documentation and an appointment will be made for you to meet with a member of the Enrolment Committee. Your help in letting friends, family and neighbours know would be greatly appreciated.

RE NEWS

The Gospel readings last week and this week are from John and shift the focus from the resurrection and begin to prepare us for the departure of Jesus from the earth – the Ascension – the sending of the Holy Spirit – the Pentecost event.

The theme of being present is very strong in this Gospel. Jesus is God present in the world. God has come to dwell among the people. Our aim should be to be one with God, not only by sharing in the resurrection but also in the way we live. Jesus makes it clear that the way to be with God is by following his example. We should be present to others and present with others. We need to open ourselves to others and allow ourselves to be changed.

Mrs. Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

IMPORTANT

UNIFORMS:

From the 9th May all children were expected to be in their full winter uniforms. Scarves and gloves are not part of the uniform, if however, you feel that your child needs extra warmth please ensure that these extra items are navy or royal blue.

PARKING AND CHILD SAFETY:

The safety of your children in their arrival and departure from school is of the utmost importance to us.

We need to ensure that everyone follows the rules for parking around the school grounds. It is not a safe or

legal practice to drop children off beside the black fences near the driveways on Reservoir Road.

If you are signing in at the office as a parent helper at St Michael's you may use the small car park to the left of the staff car park exit gate. This is the only reason for parents to use this car parking space.

COLLECTING CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL EARLY:

If you are collecting your child from school early you must come to the school office (main foyer) and sign an Early Leavers Slip. The office staff will then contact your child's class and ask them to come down to the office with their bag. We request that you remain in the office foyer until your child arrives as students are asked to come through the office so that we will be aware that they have left the school grounds with adult supervision.

Your assistance in the above matters will be greatly appreciated.

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our **PRIMARY ASSEMBLY** on 9th May 2011:

3D

Guise Abdalla
Sebastian Salman
Krisha Narayan
Mina Gendy

3G

Tobey Lewis
Ashley Galea
Anuroop Dhillon
Adrian Montoya

3S

Joshua Young
Helen Aberra
Riley Marsh
Isis Pearson

3W

Darius Meina
Peter Barisic
Sevasti Kotrolos
Takeiah Deluca

4C

Caleb Gara
Reimart Aducayen
Sebastian Rouss

4E

Thomas Curak
Ashna Varma
Maksim Car
Julian Cefai

4M

Noah Afarian
Jaiden Muscat
Roshel Gonzales
Teagan Dever

4S

Naro Sanga
Daniel Muscat
Briana Car
Andre Angulo

5B

Rahiel Abusador
Jacintha Jarosz
Michelle Lin
Lauren Crane

5K

Jonathan Tabone
Andrew Kaskaniotis
Aswithaa Visakesewaren
Caitlyn Long

5S

Kathryn Ydia
Izak Xiberras
Angelo Gunatilaka
Ashleigh Vella

6C

Molly Downie
Chris Jbarat
Zac Salman
Rebecca Phillips

6E

Bianca Cirjak
Teigan Muscat
Aaron Prasad
James Salman

6J

Tarnpreet Kaur
Dean Rodi
Hersheep Nat
Jack Bartlett



Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our **INFANTS ASSEMBLY** on 16th May 2011:

KG

Oliver Bicanic
Janelle Vella
Jav Calingao
Neve Walsh

KO

Jayden Cassar
Georgio O'Callaghan
Angelize Estil
Serena Touto

KS

Gloria Elias
Iva-Mae Requierme
Paavan Mondeddu
Andoni Papadokokalakis

KW

Karl Tongol
Noah Osbourne
Ethan Dunn
Maria Mekhail

1L

Arvin Tecson
Viktoria Vidovic
Stephanie Queixalos
Marjan Khan

1M

Elexya Boulos
Lachlan Robertson
Jaiman Godla
Madelyn Attard

1O

Connor Hayes
Ava Roach
Camila De La Piedra Yanez
Olivia Fletcher

1P

Rory Walker
Brendan Fares
Vanessa Portelli
Issabelle Makdesi

2B

Patrick Tanios
Jacinta Bayeh
Preyana Prasad
Lilly Attard

2S

Jamie Murray
Alexander Stanley-Dawson
Stella Lellis
Declan Suarez

SPORTS NEWS

DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY:

On Tuesday 3rd May 2011 we sent 43 runners to the Diocesan Cross Country, which was held at Eastern Creek. All of the children represented St Michael's brilliantly and we now have the following four runners competing at the NSWCPSS Cross Country on Friday, 3rd June:

Jack McCabe
Geraldine Vella
Tabitha Lisciotta
Georgia Tabone

We wish them all the best on the day.

We would like to thank all the parents who helped with transport to the Diocesan Cross Country.

CANTEEN NEWS

We are still receiving lunch orders with wrong prices. Please make sure you are using the **WHITE** price list—2011 Term 1. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest amount even if it is a sandwich.

We have had some mums return to work and this has left the roster short on two Fridays each month. If you

can help, please come and see me in the canteen or leave your name and phone number on my home phone (9622 5703) or at school (9622 9910). There are only 7 rostered days for the remainder of the year.

Please remember this is a Peanut Butter, Nutella, Egg and Peanut free school.

Jan Crawford

CANTEEN MANAGER

Home Phone: 9622 5703 after 4.00pm

FROM THE LIBRARY

Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who have read the required number of books to qualify for a certificate at the end of the year.

Emily Borg	KS
Rory Walker	1P
Stella Lellis	2S
Krystal Sultana	2F
Owen Walker	3D
Montanna Farquharson	4C
Liann Aquino	5K
Shanna Raj	5K
Hannah Walker	5S

So far that makes 26 students who have finished. Many others are very close. All students have until the end of August to keep reading. I hope that you will challenge yourselves to read some books that you might not otherwise try.

Book Covering

At present there are quite a few books that need covering – both paperbacks that need contact, and hard covers that use non stick plastic. If you are able to help, (even covering 5-6 books will help) please call in to the Library. All plastic is supplied.

Inter School Chess Competition

We have 17 enthusiastic Chess players who make up 2 teams that compete against other schools on Friday afternoons. So far after 2 rounds, we have had a mix of wins, losses and draws. This competition offers opportunities for the students to play under competition rules, hone their skills, meet other enthusiasts and represent St Michaels.

Judy Buhagiar

TEACHER LIBRARIAN



FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH

COMMUNITY LAUNCH OF CLIMATE CLUB

You are invited to the community launch of Climate Club for local Blacktown schools. Fun. FREE, family night out.

**TONIGHT - Tuesday 17th May
6-7.30pm
Crawford Public School
77 Powers Street, Doonside**

Bring your electricity bill and register. You could win an iPad 2.

Meet Nathan Hindmarsh from Parramta Eels and Luke Burgess of the Wallabies.

**NANO'S NATURE NURTURERS MEETING
MONDAY 23rd MAY
3.30PM IN SCHOOL LIBRARY
ALL WELCOME**

You are invited to come to a school meeting in the library to discuss with teachers, parents and other Carers, environmental issues that impact on the St Michael's community.

Issues discussed include Climate Club, Mc Cain's Bar Code competition, recycling, lost property waste and gardens.

Come and support our school and share your ideas.

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Kind Regards

Friends of our Earth Team

McCain SCHOOL VEGGIE PATCH



Primary schools around Australia and New Zealand are invited to build their own veggie patches and grow their own vegetables. To lend a helping hand, McCain is giving away over

\$500,000 worth of veggie patch equipment to primary schools during 2011.

St Michaels in conjunction with the Nano Cottage are getting involved through hands-on experience. We can grow our own veggies with equipment and advice from McCain when we purchase products from the McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato range. Collect points by sending in barcodes from McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato packs. We can redeem points for veggie patch equipment for our school

You can hand your barcodes in at school so that we may redeem them for veggie patch equipment.

- All McCain frozen vegetable 1kg, 1.2kg and 2kg packs **are worth 10 points.**

- All McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato 500g, 600g, 750g and 800g packs **are worth 5 points.**

The more points our school receives, the more veggie patch equipment we can redeem.

Barcodes = Points!

For more info visit mccainveggiepatches.com

Thanks for your help, Nano Nature Nurturers

MindQuest 2011

MindQuest 2011

**Glenwood HS, Cnr Forman Ave and
Glenwood Park Ave, Glenwood 2768
Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 June 2011
9.30am-3.30pm**

On Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 June 2011, the fifty seventh **MindQuest** program will be held for gifted and talented primary students from Years 1-6 at Glenwood HS. These include gifted and talented students, gifted underachievers and students with well above average ability with a special interest. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over **36 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program.** They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, Drama, lego Robotics, chemistry and much more. Most of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students' evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience. The cost of the weekend is \$160 (including GST).

A **SCHOLARSHIP** has been made available to cover the cost of the weekend for a student who would like to apply.

Please apply in writing (25 words or less) why you would like to attend addressed to Ms Hutchison before 23rd May.

PATRICIAN BROTHERS COLLEGE

Open Night for Year 7, 2012

Patrician Brothers' College
100 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown
Wednesday, 18th May 2011

NAGLE COLLEGE

Nagle College, Blacktown are accepting enrolments for 2012. Please contact Nagle College on 8887 4501.