



# 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 15  
20th September 2011

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

When I look over the last ten weeks I am amazed at all we have been able to achieve in such a short period of time.

Our children have had the opportunity to participate and excel through a wide range of academic, cultural and sporting activities.

Our children have demonstrated high levels of competency and confidence in participating in university exams, NAPLAN Assessments, Religious Education Assessments and of course ongoing class assessments.

Through high levels of teaching support, children have been given the opportunity of participating in Voice of Youth, Track & Field at representative level, Chess, Choral performance, Strings and of course our Creative Arts Expo.

All of these opportunities were made possible by the highly professional teaching and ancillary teams at St Michael's.

It is important to recognize a vital component of our community, the office team. The amount and calibre of the work produced in our school's office ensures our core business "Education" is maintained.

In respect to teaching and learning, I have been very impressed by the high standards of work being attained by our children. During this term we were able to conduct many exciting excursions including Canberra, Bathurst, Sydney, Taronga Zoo and of course Healthy Harold.

All of this amounts to a vibrant learning community, one that seeks to support the wholistic development of our children.

Finally, I wish to thank our Parents & Friends for their ongoing support.

Through the initiatives and hard work of Paul Scott, Leeann Dever, Annie Murray, Joanne Obote, Josephine Khairy and Marisa Khan we have been able to set in motion the **St Michael's Uniform Shop**. This shop will ensure top quality garments at competitive prices. Through our shop we can ensure consistency of garments with all profits supporting the re-sourcing of our school.

Last but not least, our Family Fun Day was a brilliant success. The sense of community and fun was everywhere and once again the hard work and passion of our Parent leaders is to be congratulated.

### IMPORTANT:

**SCHOOL CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED ON  
FRIDAY, 23rd September**

Regards,

**John Laffan  
PRINCIPAL**



### School Website:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.  
catholic.edu.au

### Email:

stmichaelsblktr@parra.catholic.edu.au

### SEPTEMBER

Wed 21st	Stage 2 Public Speaking Presentations— 1.30pm
Thurs 22nd	Stage 3 Public Speaking Presentations— 1.30pm
Fri 23rd	St Michael's Feast Day Opening & Blessing of the Father Kevin Dadswell Learning Centre
"	School closes for holidays.

### OCTOBER

Mon 10th	Term 4 commences for staff and students
Thurs 13th	World of Maths—Yrs 1, 2 & 3
Fri 14th	World of Maths—Yrs 1, 2 & 3
Mon 17th	<b>SKIP-A-THON WEEK</b>
"	Infants Assembly—2H presenting—2.15pm
Tues 18th	Diocesan Indigenous Awards Evening
Thurs 20th	Year 1O & 1M excursion to Penrith Lakes
Fri 21st	Year 1P & 1L excursion to Penrith Lakes

### 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 7:30 pm Ph: 96229149  
[www.stmichaelsparish.com](http://www.stmichaelsparish.com)

#### GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ Family Fun Day Collage
- ◆ Sydney Olympic Park School  
Holiday activities
- ◆ P & F News




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## RE NEWS

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Over the last few weeks the Sunday Gospels have contained kingdom parables. A feature of the kingdom parables that Jesus used is a challenging 'shift' to the unexpected. Jesus only ever uses parables to describe what the kingdom is like, and never says exactly what it is or isn't. In each parable he compares the kingdom of God to something that would be familiar to a 1st century audience but then he twists the familiar and makes the challenging shift by making the familiar, unfamiliar. Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God disrupts our normal way of thinking, it turns our expectations upside down and it completely challenges our 'normal' relationships.

Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a statement, 'The kingdom is like ...'. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged.

Mrs Anne Easton  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

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## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

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### **NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy & Numeracy):**

The National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy was held in Term 2 during 10-12 May 2011. Last week parents of students in years 3 and 5 received their child's NAPLAN results. These results display each child's individual student results, the national average and school average in reading, persuasive writing, language conventions and numeracy.

In year five the school average was above National average in reading, persuasive writing, spelling, numeracy and grammar and punctuation. In year 3 the school average surpassed national average in persuasive writing and spelling.

I would like to share the following statistics:-

#### **Year 5**

Reading—67% of students in the top 3 bands  
Persuasive Writing—71% of students in the top 3 bands  
Spelling—78% of students in the top 3 bands  
Grammar & Punctuation—70% of students in the top 3 bands  
Numeracy—64% of students in the top 3 bands

#### **Year 3**

Reading—65% of students in the top 3 bands  
Persuasive Writing—83% of students in the top 3 bands  
Spelling—76% of students in the top 3 bands  
Grammar & Punctuation—71% of students in the top 3 bands  
Numeracy—52% of students in the top 3 bands

The information presented above reflects the focus of our school community in areas of literacy and numeracy as part of our Implementation Plan. The information supplied in the NAPLAN reports together with school based assessments, portfolios, reports and ongoing assessments give parents and teachers information that can be tracked over your child's learning from Year 3 through to Year 5, 7 & 9.

The achievements in NAPLAN 2011 are a result of the ongoing partnership in teaching and learning between home and school.

#### **SKIP-A-THON:**

Your children have received their Skip-a-thon Sponsor cards. Could you please encourage your children to seek as many sponsors as possible eg. family, friends, work colleagues, neighbours etc.

Children will participate in the 2011 Skip-a-thon during their PE lessons Term 4 Week 2.

We would like to thank our sponsors:

**Blacktown Aquatic Centre**  
**Academy Photographers**  
**Seton**  
**Australia's Youth Self-Defence Karate**  
**Paul's Tennis Academy**  
**Featherdale Wildlife Park**  
**AMF Bowling**  
**Blacktown RSL**  
and many more

#### **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

Congratulations to the following children who presented wonderful speeches at our annual Public Speaking Presentations:

KW	Prisha Sharma
KS	Madeleine Tabone
KG	Gabrielle Romero / Joachim Tabone
KO	Jessica Gafa
1M	Jack Cadorn
1P	Alana Milic
1O	Olivia Fletcher
1L	Stephanie Queixalos
2H	Lovreen Kumar
2F	Angeli Giannakopoulos
2B	Thomas Hurst
2S	Maddison Scerri
3W	Jessica Beigel
3D	Shreya Prasad
3G	Samantha San Luis
3S	Ravleen Kaur
4C	Geraldine Vella
4S	Jessica Figuero
4M	Valentine Sultana
4E	Annabel Darmali
5S	Jumana Khan
5P	Simrani Prasad
5K	Aswithaa Visakesewaren
5B	Michelle Lin
6E	Marina Gendy
6C	Kiano Pomente
6J	Heidy Soriano

#### **ICAS—ENGLISH:**

Congratulations to the following children who achieved outstanding results in the ICAS English Competition:

**Year 3**

Anuroop Dhillon                      Credit  
Aidan Tong                                Credit

**Year 4**

Luke Barber                                Credit  
Annabel Darmali                        Credit  
Joshua Lin                                 Credit

**Year 5**

Hannah Walker                         Credit  
Liann Aquino                              Credit  
Luella Champ                              Credit  
Jacinta Jarosz                             Distinction  
Zahrah Khan                              Credit  
Michelle Lin                                Credit  
Shanna Raj                                 Credit  
Sargun Saddhar                         Credit  
Utkarsh Sharma                         Credit

**Year 6**

Rebecca Phillips                         Credit  
Lauren Ward                                Credit

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## AWARDS

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Primary Assembly on 12th September 2011:

**3G**

Gabrielle Gumatay  
Sarah Sepulveda  
Lachlan Cook  
Ashley Femia

**3D**

Sebastian Salman  
Lily Hardman  
Daniel Cutlac  
Krisha Narayan

**3S**

Jessica O'Brien  
Aubrielle Zafra  
Paige Hodgson  
Matthew Cirjak

**3W**

Petar Barisic  
Avneet Sanghera  
Sevasti Kotrolas  
Blake Graham

**4C**

William Gafa  
Jorge Capati  
Montanna Farquaharson  
Keanna Vale

**4E**

Ayden Lisciotto  
Luke Barber

**4M**

Jessica Relunia  
Marcus Correia  
Max Cyreszko  
Angel Handa

**4S**

Jessica Figueroa  
Matthew Hasna  
Reece McCahon  
Briana Car

**5K**

Andrew Kaskaniotis  
Nicholas Urludag  
Mina Asfour  
Jonathan Tabone

**5P**

Cassandra Murray  
Simrani Prasad  
Domadius Meina  
Aaron Cairns

**5S**

Tenika DeSouza  
Blake Smith  
Bethany Young  
Noah Chen

**6C**

Adrianna Bocchi  
Aaron Moller  
Ben Scarcella  
Shai Kowalski

**6J**

Grace Regan  
Ly Nguyen  
Laura Robertson  
Haile Zabala

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Infants Assembly on 19th September 2011:

**KG**

Isabella Cuthbert-Martin  
Danny Yazbek  
Hima Pandey  
Nikshay Nand

**KO**

Liam Dever  
Annabelle Spiteri  
Sami Sader  
Kayla Zerafa

**KS**

Prem Mondeddu  
Emma Golic  
Matthew Carino  
Kimberley Quai-Hoi

**KW**

Vibie Elkander  
Steven Elomina  
Emma Santa Maria  
Ella Daniel

**1L**

Gerard Abadines  
Manjot Sanghera  
AJ Abdallah  
Madelen Khairy

**1M**

Olivia Sultana  
Lawrence Chdid  
Beatrice Gara  
Biswas Simkhada

**1O**

Marianne Athanosopoulos  
Olivia Fletcher  
Jason Singh  
Anthony Siderides

**1P**

Benson Toms  
Nicholas Nilon  
Haidyn McCahon  
Rebecca Pearce-Amato

**2F**

Ashton Williams  
Keira Randall  
Gloria Cinya  
Lucas Afarian

**2H**

Mariam Abdelmasih  
Prosa Rouss  
Blake Doolin  
Rhyce Muscat

**2S**

Manam Sefeen  
Tahlia Lewis  
Jordan Blaje  
Thomas Uren

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## LIBRARY NEWS

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**PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE**

Congratulations to Rebecca Pearce-Amato of 1P who completed her Reading challenge, but was omitted from the Newsletter reports. I do apologise. If there is any other student who did not get listed in a newsletter, please come to see me so I can make sure your efforts are acknowledged.

**BOOK WEEK**

A BIG **THANKYOU** to **everyone** who helped make our Book Week celebrations so much fun.

To the **Parents** who put so much time into the costumes for the Dress up parade.

To the **Teachers and Students** who "became" the book characters and did not let the rain dampen our enthusiasm.

To the **Parents** who helped out on the sales desks at the Book Fair – I couldn't do without you.

To the **Parents and Students** who purchased books. I'm sure you will get a lot of pleasure from your purchases.



To the **students** who participated in the competitions and whose work is making the Library look so colourful.

**BOOK FAIR**

We sold a massive total of \$4,800 worth of books this year, which will give us a commission of approximately \$900 to spend on new Library resources. A great result.

**BOOK COVERING**

I would also like to add a special **THANKYOU** to all the Mums who help cover our Library and Reading Room books. The children, Staff and I really appreciate your efforts. Whether you cover 20 books, or 200 books (as some covers do) everything helps immensely.

Judy Buhagair  
**TEACHER/LIBRARIAN**

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**SPORTS NEWS**

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Tomorrow signifies the end of a fantastic athletics season with the Mackillop Carnival being held at Blacktown Olympic Park. St Michael's have 5 talented athletes competing & they are: Tabitha Lisciotto, Jack Groeneveld, Remas Elkander, Matthew Dudgeon & Marcus Correia. Its a huge accomplishment to qualify for such an event. Congratulations also to Mariah Correia who was age champion at our zone carnival earlier this term.

For our school carnival our age champions were as follows:

**Junior Champions:**

- |                     |                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Female</b>       | <b>Nosa Shata</b>                    |
| <b>Male</b>         | <b>Hayden Hunter</b>                 |
| <b>Junior R/Up:</b> |                                      |
| <b>Female</b>       | <b>Lily Hardman &amp; Flavia Aya</b> |
| <b>Male</b>         | <b>Ivan Radacic</b>                  |

**Senior Champions:**

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Female</b>       | <b>Mariah Correia</b>    |
| <b>Male</b>         | <b>Peter Friday</b>      |
| <b>Senior R/Up:</b> |                          |
| <b>Female</b>       | <b>Tabitha Lisciotto</b> |
| <b>Male</b>         | <b>Jack Groeneveld</b>   |

The Champion House for athletics this year is: **Red**.

Blue & Red were even at the completion of the carnival, however Red just crossed the line in front after completion of all events at school. A big thankyou needs to be extended to our parents who helped out on all occasions, without your support these carnivals can not happen! In a side note the little A's season is about to begin. Get involved!

Mr Jeff Phillips  
**SPORTS/PE TEACHER**

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**McCain School Veggie Patch**

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Remember to 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.
- ◆ For more info visit [mccainveggiepatches.com](http://mccainveggiepatches.com)

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

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Thank you to the one mum who has volunteered for Friday, we still need 3 extra people. Two on Thursday 9.00am-1.30pm.

Thank you to all the mums and dads for your help during Term 3.

There will be **NO CANTEEN ON FRIDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER** due to the Opening and Blessing of the Father Kevin Dadswell Learning Centre.

Please check your roster and if you can't make your day please ring as early as possible as it is hard to get replacements after 9.30am.

Jan Crawford  
**CANTEEN MANAGER**

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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**ATTENTION:** Ex-John Paul II Senior High School, Marayong students. A 20 year reunion is being held for the Graduating Class of 1991 on **Saturday, 1st October 2011**. Please join the facebook group "JPII Graduating Class of 1991" or contact [f.sodeau@aapt.net.au](mailto:f.sodeau@aapt.net.au) for full details.

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**FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH**

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**SEED PLANTING STALL:**

A big **thank you** to all the children and parents who purchased a seed packet, soil, potted plant or planted a seed at our Family Fun Day Stall. We had a great day and successfully raised \$67 for our school!!!

We will be back bigger and better next year.

To all the children who planted a seed, keep watering it, and in the next few days your seed will slowly grow into a plant. Happy gardening!!!

**LOST PROPERTY CLEAN UP:**

The lost property bin will be cleaned up **this Friday**. All jackets and jumpers with no labels will be donated to the school clothing pool. Those that have labels will be returned to the child.

As the seasons get warmer, we will hopefully see less lost property, but we hope to do another iron on label day early next term.

Happy holidays! See you in Term 4.  
**FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH TEAM**