



# 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 5  
5th April 2011

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

Last week I was provided with the opportunity to participate in a Conference for educators in "Presentation Schools". The Conference theme was based on a line from Luke's Gospel:

**"I have come to cast fire upon the earth..." Luke 12:4**



As you know the foundations of our school community have been formed from the Presentation Sisters Charism and the work of their foundress, Nano Nagle. Formed in 18th century Cork Islands, the sisters began an order that would become worldwide in their influence.

This Charism is a gift of the Holy Spirit to an individual for the good of others.

The Presentation Sisters grew from this Charism with a great dedication and passion for those made poor and worked to ensure changing those structures that kept those people in their state of poverty.

For the Presentation Sisters the answer to tearing down these structures was in educating the poor, working tirelessly for the marginalised.

For Nano Nagle, following Jesus, whose identification with those made poor and those oppressed, was so strong and unambiguous that it led to his death, would become the driving force and the light that would eventually touch the lives of millions.

#### REFLECTION:

As Presentation People take some time during these days before Easter to read the following and reflect. God Bless you.

#### Nothing Exists Apart from God

What do you know for certain? The question, posed by a friend, was challenging, and answering wasn't as easy as I'd thought. There are many things I believe. Things I hope. Things I've been taught. But what do I know for certain?

*Even the darkness is held by light.* I scratched the words onto a page and looked at them. Even the darkness is held by light. Yes, I know this most of all. There is no corner of creation, no event, no circumstance where God is not. There is no life, period, apart from the Spirit. In my own most penetrating darkness, my husband and daughter senselessly killed, still...there was light. Whether or not I saw it, whether or not I believed...light penetrated my life. God is found in the depths of both the light and the dark.

Lent reminds me of this deeper knowing: The universe is ordered to God. And I must learn to see beyond passing disappointments and accept the exquisite timing of creation and of my own journey. Where I listen to life from is crucial. From ego, the gratification of my own needs and satisfactions takes over. From ego, my circumstances dominate, and the dark appears to be separate from God.

But looking from the spirit within, I know differently. I know that everything unfolds in its time. I know that within all adversity is a force of love that prevails. I am safe, even in the dark.

Regards,

John Laffan  
PRINCIPAL

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

### APRIL

Mon 4th	Primary Assembly—6E presenting—2.15pm
Tues 5th	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day at Aquilina Reserve
Fri 8th	<b>Lenten Gospels 11.30am</b>
"	Term 1 concludes
Wed 27th	<b>School Resumes for Term 2 Staff and Students</b>
Fri 29th	<b>ANZAC Day Commemoration—9.30am</b>

### MAY

Mon 2nd	<b>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK</b>
"	Infants Assembly—1M & 1O presenting 2.15pm
Tues 3rd	Diocesan Cross Country
Fri 6th	Year 1 Excursions to Powerhouse Discovery Centre—Castle Hill
Mon 9th	Primary Assembly—3S presenting—2.15pm

#### 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](http://www.stmichaelsparish.com)

#### GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ Climate Club
- ◆ AMF Bowling Voucher
- ◆ P & F—Mother's Day Stall



**RE NEWS**

Congratulations to all families who contributed to our Project Compassion mufti days. Over the two weeks we have raised over \$3500.00. That is an amazing amount of money, which will be used by Caritas to give hope to many people who live in poverty and darkness. We have truly become "people of light" giving light and hope to those who live in darkness through our actions.

Join us on Friday, as we journey with Jesus through some of the Lenten Gospels, which will help prepare us for the upcoming Holy Week. We will move around school and experience four stories about Jesus' encounters with ordinary people. The classes presenting the four encounters are 4M, 5B, 6J and 6E. Please join us in the Primary Quad to begin your journey at 11.30am on Friday.

When we return after the holidays we will commemorate Anzac Day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am in the Primary Quad. We ask that each child bring a single flower to school that morning so each class can bring a bouquet to be placed along with our wreath as part of the prayer. The classes involved in this liturgy are KW, 1M, 2S, 3G, 4M, 5K and 6E.

Please feel most welcome to join us for both of these liturgies.  
Mrs. Anne Easton

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

**AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our **INFANTS ASSEMBLY** on 28th March 2011:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>KG</b><br>Liana Jbarat<br>Joachim Tabone<br>Fredritz Brillo<br>Aimee Gatt               | <b>KO</b><br>Oliver Vella<br>Andrew Arredondo<br>Brianna Mareschi<br>Xavier Chahine     |
| <b>KS</b><br>Xander Casipit<br>Brooklyn Stack<br>Kimberley Quai Hoi<br>Prem Mondeddu       | <b>KW</b><br>Ethan Dunn<br>Rachedi Azar<br>Damian Lloyd<br>Alice Durkin                 |
| <b>1L</b><br>Jevon Stanic<br>Eshaa Dalal<br>Gerard Abadines<br>Manjot Sanghera             | <b>1M</b><br>Matthew Wormleaton<br>Jayden Arias<br>Ioanna Hatziaandreou<br>Zack Hardman |
| <b>1O</b><br>Lachlan Bojarski<br>Marianne Athanosopoulos<br>Ben Vella<br>Nathaniel Darmali | <b>1P</b><br>Joshua Pinto<br>Benson Toms<br>Alana Milic<br>Rebecca Pearce-Amato         |
| <b>2B</b><br>Tara Wallace<br>Jordan Roman<br>Thomas Hurst<br>Lucas Tabone                  | <b>2F</b><br>Ashton Williams<br>Jeydan Sami<br>Sophia Sogora<br>Angeli Giannakopoulos   |

- 2H**  
Angelina Ayala  
Porsha Rouss  
Vincent Aquino  
Mariam Abdelmasih

- 2S**  
Maddison Scerri  
Shaun Cabuay  
Chloreesse Ocampo  
Kyle Zammit

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our **PRIMARY ASSEMBLY** on 4th April 2011:

- 3D**  
Rohan Prasad  
Sahil Punjwani  
Mika Lansley  
Ivana Zlendich
- 3S**  
Rima Milan  
Paige Hodgson  
John Elomina  
Sage Andary
- 4C**  
Jeroen Salvador  
Hannah Bopf  
Vanessa Lozoda  
Emmanuel Ratnarajah

- 3G**  
Ashley Femia  
Samantha San Luis  
Breydan Koong  
Joanne Salvana
- 3W**  
Takeiah DeLuca  
Harry Attard  
Avigalle Mendoza  
Connor Carbone
- 4E**  
Julian Cefai  
Annabel Darmali  
Bronte Newsome  
Keenan Tamayo

- 4M**  
Kristina Markovic  
Angel Handa  
Vince Ocampo  
Max Cyresco

- 4S**  
Jessica Figueroa  
Natalia Sharma  
Liam Daniel  
Vanessa Abouhamad

- 5B**  
Jacintha Jarosz  
Pius Baraji  
Lancelot Garcia  
Johnny Papadimatos

- 5K**  
Zahrah Khan  
Thea Abdelseed  
John Bayeh  
Rachel White  
Taylor Hayes  
Jason Barrak

- 5P**  
Luella Champ  
David Lee  
Sophia Kuku  
Japhet Elias

- 5S**  
Nathan Aberra  
Madeleine Beavis  
Garry Ho  
Alexandra Valderrama

- 6C**  
Jonathan Salvana  
Jessie Carr  
Zain Sahu-Khan  
Leah Hernandez

- 6E**  
Lachlan Scott  
Brittany Vella  
Chloe Smith  
Jayden Borg

- 6J**  
Danielle Lu  
Shania Arab  
Haile Zabala  
Laura Robertson

- Peter Friday  
Carmen Makarous  
Sinna Touto  
Callan Beerens

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their help in the canteen and thank you to those parents who donated items to the canteen. Over the last two weeks I have sent out accounts



to parents for lunch orders that were made for children who forgot to bring lunch and lost lunches. Could you please check your child's school bag and pay these outstanding accounts before the end of the week (7th April).

I would like to wish you all a safe holiday and a happy and Holy Easter.

Thank you for all your support and looking forward to working with you again in Term 2.

Jan Crawford

**CANTEEN MANAGER**

Home Phone: 9622 5703 after 4.00pm

## FROM THE LIBRARY

### Premier's Reading Challenge:

15 more students have completed their Reading Challenges.

Congratulations to the following

Jessica Gafa	KO
Brooklyn Stack	KS
Issabelle Makdessi	1P
Andrew Roseby	2S
Taliyah Behrens	3S
Marcus Correia	3W
Geraldine Vella	4C
Annabel Darmali	4E
Bianca Queixalos	4E
Caitlyn Gibbins	4M
Lachlan Stack	4M
Valentine Sultana	4M
Briana Yu	4M
Jasmine Wormleaton	5B
Tarenpreet Kaur	6J

**Well done to all!**

I hope all other readers enjoy many books during the coming holidays on the way to completing their own challenges.

## FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH



**CLIMATE CLUB—Saving energy as a community sport!!!! (see Flyer enclosed in this newsletter)**

At St Michael's we invite you to join the Climate Club Team. This is in conjunction with other school parents, carers and community members. It is fundraising for our school, while you at home save

money on your own electricity bill!!!! Plus we get our children excited about helping our environment.

The St Michael's Climate Club will compete against schools in the Blacktown area and across Sydney. All you need to do is visit the website

[www.climateclubs.org.au](http://www.climateclubs.org.au)

and follow the steps to register your household. The only requirement is that you have lived in your house for over 1 year.

More information about Climate Club will be made available next term. The competition starts on May 1, so start registering!!!



Please remember to clearly label your children's items including lunch boxes, drink bottles, hats and jumpers to help reduce packaging waste and clothes wastage.

Thank you to all the students who took part in St Michael's Earth Hour and to the families who participated at home on the 26th March. The earth loved your support!!!!

See you in Term 2

Kind Regards,  
**FRIEND OF OUR EARTH TEAM**

## AUSTRALASIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS YEARS 3-6

As you are aware the ICAS Computer, Writing, English, Spelling and Maths Competitions are held during Terms 2 & 3 on the following dates:

Computer	Tuesday, 24th May	\$7.00
Science	Wednesday, 8th June	\$7.00
Spelling	Tuesday, 21st June	\$10.00
Writing	Tuesday, 21st June	\$15.00
English	Tuesday, 2nd August	\$7.00
Mathematics	Tuesday, 16th August	\$7.00

If you would like your child to participate in the ICAS Competitions they must bring in an envelope (which they collect from class teacher) for each competition before the **closing date (Thursday, 7th April)**. **No late entries will be accepted after this date.**

Regards  
Michael Sicilinao  
**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

## P & F NEWS

The end of Term 1 has arrived quickly, a change in our clocks, battery replacements in our smoke alarms and the soon celebration of Anzac Day and the Resurrection.

My wife and I bought a book based on the story by Leo Tolstoy, "The Three Questions" written in 1885.

The three questions:

1. 'The most important time is now'. (The present is the only time over which we have power).
2. 'The most important person is whoever you are with'.
3. 'The most important thing is to do good to the person you are with'!

Therefore during the holidays when you are with a friend or family the time you share or service to that person is the most important thing.



The Climate Club is an Energy Conservation competition being run by the University Technology Sydney. St Michael's has been selected as one of the school to compete. Please see the handout in this week's newsletter and look at the website <http://www.climateclubs.org.au/>

Last week at the General Meeting, Mr Laffan indicated that the school is looking towards a change of uniform supplier. This change will be of benefit to the school community and as further information becomes available it will be disseminated. In the meantime the P&F will run the clothing pool, selling some of the new uniform items in conjunction with Lowes. Mrs Prsa has been making a variety of school uniform items including trousers and dresses for many families within the school. Mrs Prsa can be contacted on 9622 3217.

Late next term it is hoped that we can hold our first Video Night. It will be held in the Open Learning Space and will provide a night to watch a video. Costs per family will be listed next term, this will be a fundraising event with sausage sizzle or similar on the night.

The Mothers Day Stall will be held in May. Please see the flyer in this newsletter.

The team hope you have a happy and safe Easter and we look forward to working with you next term.  
Regards  
Paul—0416250591

## POPULAR ANZAC BISCUIT RECIPE

The popular ANZAC biscuit is a traditional, eggless sweet biscuit.

The following is a original recipe provided by Bob Lawson, an ANZAC present at the Gallipoli landing.

### Ingredients:-

- 1 cup each of plain flour, sugar, rolled oats, and coconut
- 4 oz butter
- 1 tbs treacle (golden syrup)
- 2 tbs boiling water
- 1 tsp bicarbonate soda (add a little more water if mixture is too dry)

### Method:-

1. Grease biscuit tray and pre-heat oven to 180°C.
2. Combine dry ingredients.
3. Melt together butter and golden syrup. Combine water and bicarbonate soda, and add to butter mixture.
4. Mix butter mixture and dry ingredients.
5. Drop teaspoons of mixture onto tray, allowing room for spreading.
6. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until golden. Allow to cool on tray for a few minutes before transferring to cooling racks.

**Source:** Recipes taken from Robin McLachlan, Anthea Bundock, Marie Wood, Discovering Gallipoli: research guide (Bathurst, NSW: Times Past Productions for the Australian War Memorial, 1990)



## SPORTS NEWS

### Cross Country

Well done to all the boys and girls who completed their 2-3km runs last Tuesday. Running those distances is a big achievement regardless of what place you came! The participation was exceptional and the fitness levels of our students was very pleasing. A big thanks to all parents and staff for their support on the day! The students who qualified for the Diocesan Carnival on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 at Eastern Creek Raceway, include:

<b>BOYS:</b>	<b>8/9 years</b>	<b>10 years</b>
<b>1st</b>	Tobey Lewis	William Gafa
<b>2nd</b>	Jimmy Whelan	Hayden Hunter
<b>3rd</b>	Ronald David	Jason Wormleaton
	Thomas O'Callaghan	Salim Touto
	Bailey Williams	Marcus Correia
	Breydan Koong	Ayden Lisciotto
	<b>11 years</b>	<b>12/13 years</b>
<b>1st</b>	Jack McCabe	Peter Friday
<b>2nd</b>	Gergis Abdalla	Jack Groeneveld
<b>3rd</b>	Andrew Amabile	Jacob Currie
	Michael Demirgellis	
	Dean Rodi	
	Christian Williams	

<b>GIRLS:</b>	<b>8/9 years</b>	<b>10 years</b>
<b>1st</b>	Nosa Shata	Geraldine Vella
<b>2nd</b>	Flavia Aya	Stacey Hanna
<b>3rd</b>	Jasmine Estrada	Aglaya Figueroa
	Claudia Estrada	Jessica Figueroa
	Caitlyn McCabe	Caitlyn Gibbins
	Susan Sogora	Michelle Lin
	<b>11 years</b>	<b>12/13 years</b>
<b>1st</b>	Mariah Correia	Tabitha Lisciotto
<b>2nd</b>	Rachel White	Georgia Petersen
<b>3rd</b>	Remas Elkander	
	Scovia David	
	Rahiel Abusador	
	Georgia Tabone	

### Rugby League News

Congratulations to Christian Williams & Aaron Cairns for making it to the Diocesan Rugby League side. Great job guys!

Also we have been given a number of season passes to watch any game in the NRL, at any ground, with the exception of representative matches & finals. The first 15 students who do not play competition (players are issued with one) that bring in a note from their parents which states they are willing to use these passes on a regular basis, may have one. Limit one per family, depending on demand.

### Athletics

Applications for invitation to the NSWPSSA Selection Trials for the 2011 School Sport Australia Track & Field Championships are being taken. The event is at Sydney Olympic Park on the 1<sup>st</sup> July and has very strict criteria for entry. For more information on qualifying times and distances see Mr Phillips.

Regards  
Jeff Phillips  
**PE/SPORTS TEACHER**