



# 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 14  
6th September 2011

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

When we live under the banner and motto of "Love One Another" it could be easy to let its great message wash over us rather than allowing it to be a wellspring for ongoing growth.

Recently a friend of mine (a Marist Brother), Brother Bill Tarrant reminded me,

*"God never changes his mind about you  
God is simply in  
love with you.  
What God does again and again  
is change your mind about him."*

God is there whenever we are open to him...

God comes disguised as others...

For us at St Michael's—who are the others?

Are we, as a community, continually open to his presence?

At St Michael's the constant building of relationships through liturgical celebrations, and in working towards our children's ongoing wholistic development is paramount.

Last week's Father's Day Liturgy was testimony to this goal, with over 100 families celebrating the life of Fatherhood.

I encourage you to accept our offer to be an active member of our community. I sincerely invite your participation in this weeks P & F meeting and of course our Family Fun Day.

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY: Friday, 16th September 2011 Pupil Free Day

Teachers will be undertaking Professional Learning "Understanding By Design" on this day.

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### ST MICHAEL'S FAMILY FUN DAY: Sunday, 18th September 2011

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### ST MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY and OPENING AND BLESSING OF THE FATHER KEVIN DADSWELL LEARNING CENTRE: Friday, 23rd September 2011—10.00am

Regards,

John Laffan  
PRINCIPAL



### School Website:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.  
catholic.edu.au

### Email:

stmichaelsblktr@parra.catholic.edu.au

### SEPTEMBER

Wed 7th	P & F General Meeting—1.45pm
"	Book Fair
Thurs 8th	Book Fair
Fri 9th	Book Fair
"	Dress Up Parade
"	Diocesan Captivate Choral Concert
Mon 12th	Primary Assembly—4S presenting—2.15pm
Tues 13th	Creative Arts Expo
Wed 14th	Voice of Youth—Western Region Final
Fri 16	<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY— Pupil Free Day</b>
Sun 18th	<b>FAMILY FUN DAY</b>
Mon 19th	Infants Assembly—KW & KO presenting—2.15pm
Tues 20th	K-2 Public Speaking Presentations—1.30pm
Wed 21st	Stage 2 Public Speaking Presentations—1.30pm
Thurs 22nd	Stage 3 Public Speaking Presentations—1.30pm

### 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:

- ◆ P & F News
- ◆ Police Force Information
- ◆ Collage—Year 5 Bathurst Excursion and Father's Day Liturgy




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## RE NEWS

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In next Sunday's Gospel we hear the parable of the unforgiving servant. The story of the unforgiving servant is a familiar one of forgiveness and mercy being shown but not passed on. The sting in the tail of this parable is Jesus' final warning that, 'So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.' This is an unsettling statement, as we believe God's forgiveness to be without measure and without end. Jesus warns that unless we seek to imitate God's forgiveness and forgive others 'from our heart' with compassion then we are not going to recognise the forgiveness of God and will cut ourselves off from it.

The whole idea of forgiving from the heart is a powerful contradiction of a popular concept: 'I can forgive, but not forget.' Is it really possible to forgive but refuse to forget? Surely holding on to a memory of hurt is holding on to the hurt itself and does not display that any forgiveness has occurred at all. To forgive but not forget is to keep count. How many times should I forgive the one who has hurt me? As many times as it takes!

Mrs Anne Easton  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

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## ICAS

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

**Year 3:**

Sevasti Kotrolos	Credit
Aidan Tong	Credit
Jerissa Valmeo	Credit

**Year 4:**

Matthew Dudgeon	Credit
William Gafa	Credit
Joshua Lin	Credit
Erin Minett	Credit
Geraldine Vella	Credit

**Year 5:**

Liann Aquino	Distinction
Jacintha Jarosz	Credit
Zahrah Khan	Credit
Michelle Lin	Credit
Shanna Raj	Credit
Sargun Saddhar	Credit
Utkarsh Sharma	Credit

**Year 6:**

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 29th August 2011:

**3D**

Guise Abdalla  
Flavia Aya  
Sahil Runjwani  
Rohan Prasad

**3S**

Rima Milan  
Vansh Darji  
Megan Collings  
Taliyah Behrens

**4C**

Giorgio Hajjar  
Joshua Jbarat  
Vanessa Lozada  
Andrew Mouannes

**4M**

Jim Abdalla  
Claudia DeBartolo  
Briana Yu  
Noah Afarian

**5B**

Rahiel Abusador  
Ella vonBuren  
Daniel Hertel  
Laren Henry

**5P**

Monique Salazar  
Eden Randall  
Japhet Elias  
Simon Koutoulas

**6C**

Kristen Mifsud  
Zachery Salmon  
Chris Jbarat  
Kathlyn Bagay

**6J**

Danielle Lu  
Shabrit Sidhu  
Peter Friday  
Christopher Simic

**3G**

Eleni Mavris  
Ashleigh Witteveen  
Sarah Smith  
Jessica Yew

**3W**

Martin Agyel  
Afdeet Aguer  
Seandan Arias  
Harry Attard

**4E**

Annabel Darmali  
Jason Dent  
Ashna Varma  
Tayla Begg

**4S**

Vanesssa Abouhamad  
Matthew Hasna  
Erin Minett

**5K**

Aswithaa Visakesewaren  
Rolan Gonzales  
Taylor Hayes  
Andrew Amabile

**5S**

Madeleine Beavis  
Ashleigh Vella  
Nathaniel Perez  
Angelo Gunatilaka

**6E**

Jaida Gigante  
Brittany Vella  
Terry-James Kairouz  
Luis Salgado

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## LIBRARY NEWS

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**Premier's Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to the following 13 students who completed their challenges just in time

Oge Daniels-Obiokolie	KO
Emma Santa Maria	KW
Oliver Vella	KO
Jordan Beavis	1M



Marjan Khan	1L
Joshua Pinto	1P
Benjamin Vella	1O
Sharon Nogueiro	2S
Sara Santa Maria	2B
Jorge Capati	4C
Marcus Correia	4M
Caitlin Long	5K
Casey Vella	5K

This gives us a grand total of **100 students** who completed all reading requirements – 8 more than last year. Well done to all. You should receive your certificates in early December.

The following list shows the numbers by grade of students who achieved their reading goals.

Kindergarten	10
Year 1	21
Year 2	17
Year 3	10
Year 4	16
Year 5	19
Year 6	7

### Book Fair Book Fair Book Fair Book Fair Book Fair Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair will take place this week in the Library. The children are very excited. There are some wonderful books available in a good range of prices.

**Books will be sold at the following times only :**

**Wednesday 8.30 – 9am and 2.45 – 3.30pm**

**Thursday 8.30 – 9am and 2.45 – 3.30pm**

**Friday 8.30 - 9am and at the conclusion of the Dress up parade**



Judy Buhagair  
**TEACHER/LIBRARIAN**

## MINDQUEST 2011

On Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 October 2011, the fifty ninth **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 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).

**Glenwood HS is in the Baulkham Hills area close to the M7 and is easy to get to from most parts of Sydney. Contact your school for a brochure or call Shelagh on (02) 4233 2328.**

**Closing date: Last day of Term 3  
Friday, 23rd September 2011**

## McCain School Veggie Patch

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 [mccainveggiepatch-es.com](http://mccainveggiepatch-es.com)

## 2H ASSEMBLY

The 2H Assembly was postponed due to illness. The new date for the 2H is now next term, Monday, 17th October.

Kind regards  
Miss Hammond




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**NATIONAL CAPITAL EDUCATION  
TOURISM PROJECT  
Year 6 Canberra Excursion  
26th/27th July 2011**

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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.

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**PARENT EDUCATION SESSION**

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**PRC—Diocese of Parramatta  
uncann—Understanding children with additional  
needs network**

**Helping your child with additional needs make  
the transition—**for parents with children starting school, moving into a new grade or starting high school.

**Guest Speakers:** Representatives from Catholic Education student services team, Any Gill, Learning Support Teacher at Marian College, Kenthurst and uncann parents.

**Details:** 13th September 2011, 7.15pm for 7.30pm start, Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Marion Street and Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown

**Enquiries:** Marie Coddington—0407 121 967 or Venessa Ward—0408 100 909

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

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Last term we had four helpers return to work from Fridays Roster. As Friday is our busiest day for lunches we desperately need replacements. You would only have 2 to 3 canteen days until the end of the year. If you can help please come to the Canteen or leave a message on 9622 5703 and I will call you back. The

roster is on the notice board outside the canteen and the groups are 1, 3 & 4.

Last week a blue Term 3 Price List went home. Please make sure you are using this one as any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest amount even if this means having a sandwich.

Thank you for your support,  
Jan Crawford  
**CANTEEN MANAGER**

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**FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH**

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**FAMILY FUN DAY:** Friends of our Earth will be having a PLANT STALL at the Family Fun day. Come along and fill a container with soil, add a seedling, water your plant and take it home. With a little TLC watch your plant grow!!!!

A small donation on the day would be appreciated.

If any one would like to donate clean, empty plastic yoghurt containers please send them to 2F or 3G.

**LANCASTER STREET FRUIT MARKET:**

Do you have a compost bin? Do you like to compost at home? Do you own a rabbit, guinea pig or chickens? Do you have pets that eat fresh fruit and vegetable produce?

Then head on down to the Lancaster Street Fruit Market in Blacktown to receive your FREE fresh produce waste. They donate fresh, unwanted produce that you could use to feed pets, or to top up your compost.

For further information head down to the fruit shop and ask to talk to the Manager: Nat or call 8814 9040.

**BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL:**

Don't know what to do with your ELECTRONIC waste???? E-CYCLE IT!!

Blacktown City Council is having a FREE electronic waste drop off day.

**When:** Saturday 17 and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September from 9am-3pm

**Where:** Blacktown International Spotspark Sydney, Entrance via Eastern Road, Doonside.

***The following Electronic Waste will be accepted:***

Computers/Laptops/ Fax Machines/ Keyboards  
Printers/Scanners  
Telephones including mobiles  
Televisions  
Video/ DVD Players  
Microwaves

***Electronic Waste NOT accepted include:***

Hazardous Waste  
No whitegoods  
Smoke alarms/X rays

Thank you—**Friends Of Our Earth Team**