



Newsletter

St Michael's Primary School, Blacktown South
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Each year our staff develop our school goals which focus on three areas, Formation (Religious Education), Literacy and Numeracy. These goals are determined and developed based on the current needs of the students at St Michael's. As we continue our journey of working towards achieving our school goals we regularly receive feedback and gather with other schools to share ideas and evidence of development. Last week our Leadership team demonstrated our learning so far with our colleagues across the Diocese.

As a reminder our School goals include:

- **Formation (Religious Education):** for students to demonstrate their understanding of what it means to be a Presentation Person. Students will demonstrate an ability to articulate how they as Presentation People live out the Gospel in both '*word and deed*'.
- **Literacy:** all students will demonstrate at least a year's growth in comprehension.
- **Numeracy:** all students will develop reasoning skills in a multiplicative way to solve problems.

Staff will continue working with colleagues within our Diocese, Teacher Educators, as well as Academic Partners to continue to deepen student learning.

We will gather together as a Staff on Friday to continue to deepen our learning about becoming "Presentation People" living out the Gospel in both "word and deed". This will include staff working together to plan for opportunities to engage children with learning about Nano Nagle and the charisms of the Presentation Sisters.

Enrolments: Kindergarten 2019 Interviews are taking place now. If you have a children starting Kindergarten in 2019 we invite you to make an interview time as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Sarah O'Rourke

PRINCIPAL



St Michael's Primary School
Blacktown South

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, 7th June	Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass - 9.30am
Friday, 8th June	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - Pupil Free day
Monday, 11th June	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY - Public Holiday
Wednesday, 13th June	ICAS - Spelling Competition - 7.30am
Thursday, 14th June	ICAS - Writing Competition - 7.30am
Thursday, 14th June	Year 4 Grade Mass
Thursday, 14th June	Whole School Assembly - 2.00pm
Tuesday, 19th June	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day, Jameson Park, Penrith
Tuesday, 26th June	Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day, Jameson Park, Penrith
Monday, 2nd July	OPEN DAY for prospective new families - 9.30am-10.30am
Friday, 6th July	Last day of Term 2 for Staff and Students
Monday, 23rd July	Term 3 commences for Staff and Students



St Michael's Primary School Blacktown South

St Michael's is a Catholic learning community that Reflects, Engages and Empowers by:

- Promoting a vibrant Religious Education program, prayer and spiritual life for students
- Living out our school motto 'Love One Another' through active involvement in social justice
- Educating the whole child—academically, physically, emotionally and spiritually
- Ensuring teaching and learning is purposeful, relevant, innovative and collaborative
- Supporting each member of the community in their faith and learning journey

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS FOR 2019
PLACES AVAILABLE KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6**

OPEN DAYS

Monday, 28th May 2018—9:30am-10:30am
Thursday, 31st May 2018—4:00pm-5:00pm
Monday, 2nd July 2018—9:30am-10:30am

For information or to enrol contact:
155 Reservoir Road, Blacktown 2148

Phone 8869 6200 email stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

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St Michael's Blacktown South

@StMichaels2148





RE NEWS

Last Sunday was the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. The words of the gospel passage in which Jesus takes bread and wine and blesses them will be familiar. They are the words used at the consecration of the bread and wine during the Mass. The words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper are regarded as instituting the celebration of the Eucharist. Jesus took an act that was familiar to the Passover meal and gave it a new meaning and a new significance for his followers. Jesus was marking a new covenant between God and God's people – a covenant in blood like the covenants of old. He is making it clear that God is prepared to start over again with the people – a new covenant for a new phase of the ever developing relationship.



Covenant is a recurring element throughout the Old Testament writings. A covenant is a formal agreement between two or more parties. In the Biblical context, covenants were made between God and God's people. The first covenant, although not described as such, is the covenant between God and Adam – each promising certain things. After the failure of this covenant, God renewed the covenant promise to Noah and symbolised it with the rainbow. Later covenants were again struck with Abraham, Moses and David – each time initiated by God to give the people another chance to be faithful to their relationship.

On Thursday, 7th June we will celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus with Mass at 9.30am in the Church. Please feel most welcome to attend. During Mass we hope to make a presentation to St Vincent de Paul with the money raised last Friday with our mufti day.

SPORTS NEWS

Primary Athletics Carnival

What a glorious day we all had last Tuesday at our Primary Athletics carnival. The weather was so kind to us on the day and all the children participated with a huge amount of energy and enthusiasm. It was wonderful to look across the venue throughout the day and see a 'sea of colour' with all our children smiling, cheering and trying their best.





Many hands contributed to the day being such a success, firstly thank you to all the staff who attended the day and supported us in many ways. From the early arrivals who helped set up or escorted the students on the early bus, to the staff who ran events or travelled around with the students all day and helped pack up, THANK YOU.

To our parent helpers, Mr Eato who started every race on the day, Mrs Gardoll who constantly distributed refreshments to our helpers and Mr Clarke who transported equipment to and from the event as well as assisting on the day we all say THANK YOU. To Mrs Dudgeon, Mrs Grills, Mrs Furey, Mrs Regner, Mrs Sultana, Mrs Estrada, Mrs Norman, Mrs DeVos, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Chahine, Mrs Said who all filled various roles on the day we say THANK YOU, to the Patrician Brothers' College students who assisted on the day, your support was very valued and appreciated by all, THANK YOU.

Many hours go into the planning, preparation and running of the day, on behalf of both Mrs Budd and Mr Ng we would like to say THANK YOU to all students of St Michael's whose efforts, enthusiasm and behaviour on the day made all the hours well worth it.

Official results will be advertised in the coming weeks.

Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day – Tuesday 19th June – Jamison Park Penrith

These teams have been finalised and all students have received permission notes, if we could kindly ask that all notes are returned by the due date please. The boys are training during lunch time on a Wednesday.



Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day – Tuesday 26th June – Jamison Park Penrith

Trials for these teams are being held at lunch time today, once teams are finalised students will receive permission notes. Training will be held at school during lunch times. This gala day is held at Jamison Park, Penrith and it will be parents/carers responsibility to transport their child to and from the venue.

NSWCPSCCC Cross Country Friday 15th June

We would like to take this opportunity to wish 3 of our superstar runners the best of luck as they represent Parramatta Diocese at the upcoming Cross Country event. Natasha Martinez, Alexis Hayward and Antoni Arshilo will be attending this event next week and all the St Michael's community will be cheering for them all the way from Blacktown!

Yours in Sport

Mrs Budd/Mr Ng

PE Teachers



P&F



Parents & Friends Association

Facebook: St Michael's Blacktown South P&F **Email:** stmichaelspandf@gmail.com

Kristen Mobile: 0409 952 852

Leanne Mobile: 0413 546 062

Calendar of Events

2018

June

6th - P&F Meeting

August

19th – Shopping Bus Trip

October

19th – Rides Night

December

Christmas Concert

P&F Meeting – Wednesday 6th June 2018

We have our Term 2 meeting coming up this Wednesday 6th June, 2018 and we have some exciting things to share and discuss so make sure you keep the night free. It will also be a great opportunity for you to meet our new leader, Sarah O'Rourke.

We know it's State of Origin so we've changed the start time to 6pm and promise to have you out in plenty of time to go home and get comfy in front of the TV, those who know me know I run a pretty strict agenda lol.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Change of Date Notice

Whilst we are still yet to share any details I wanted to let you all know that the Rides Night date in our Calendar has been changed from the 26th October and will now be held on Friday night the 19th October.

We are trying something a little different to our Spring Fair so watch this space for more information over the coming months ☺

PRC

Parents Representative Council – Web: <http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au/home>

School Representative: Michelle Williams



We are very excited to announce that we have booked a Shopping Tour for **Sunday 19th August, 2018** which is just in time to start organising yourself for Christmas lol.

Date: Sunday 19th August, 2018
Tour Cost: \$34 (min 40) / \$37 (min 30) / \$39 (min 20) /
\$55 (min 15) paying passengers

Times: Pick Up: 7.00am Drop Off: 6.00pm

Pick up Address: School Bus Bay, Orwell Street

We are looking into the possibility of providing pre-paid lunch packs (salads / wraps, water etc.) instead of stopping for a Pub Lunch which will save \$\$ and increase our Shopping Time ☺ I will keep you updated.

How to Book:

Please contact Leanne Cash (details below) to provide your details & number of people you have coming or to Kris at Kiss & Drop in the mornings. Based on some initial feedback we've had we expect this to be popular so get in quick so you don't miss out.

Money won't need to be collected until early August so you have plenty of time ☺

Don't forget to ask your Family & Friends ☺

Leanne Mobile: 0413 546 062

Leanne Email: leannecash@gmail.com



SCHOOL FEES

There was a delay in the delivery of our school fee statements. Please be advised that these school fees are payable by Friday, 15th June not the date on the statement.

If you have any queries regarding school fees, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Morning

9.15 – 11am
Wednesday 13th June 2018

Enrolments for Year 7 2020

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2020. Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on our upcoming school tour especially for Year 7 2020 applicants but open to any year group. This is the last school tour until November.

Our Open Morning is a great opportunity to tour around our school grounds, view our fantastic facilities and meet our students and teachers. You will have the opportunity to go into classrooms and see them in action. Both children and adults are most welcome.

Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend. Our school tours will leave at 9.15am and car parking will be available in the visitor's car parking area via Gate 3 from 9am onwards. Ask for details when making your booking.

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

1. Encourage kids to spend more time with other children

When children spend more time among themselves they rely less on adults to solve problems for them. In fact, when kids play among themselves they take on the authority of adults in their absence. They negotiate about what and how to play. They will often make up the rules of their games, modifying them as they go along and challenging other children's interpretations. "You're not playing by the rules" is a common childhood retort, but the important thing to remember is that, left to their own devices, kids will generally resolve such conflict situations more creatively and with more finality than if adults become involved.



RESILIENCE

2. Help children be good losers and gracious winners

In recent years there's been an aversion to exposing kids to losing, particularly when it comes to the sporting field. Some codes, in an effort to improve the participatory experience for kids, don't keep scores and give prizes for participation rather than achievement. However, these practices prevent kids from experiencing both the resilience-building disappointment that comes with a loss and the confidence-building satisfaction that comes from winning. More significantly, they prevent kids from refining the art of being good losers and gracious winners, both important skills to learn for future development.

3. Encourage kids to talk about emotions and feelings

It's important that children become comfortable with unpleasant feelings such as disappointment, fear and nervousness rather than be debilitated by them. We need to allow children to experience events that lead to unpleasant emotions. We also need to feel comfortable ourselves with our children's unpleasant feelings. Enabling children to verbalise their unpleasant feelings helps them process and make sense of their emotions. Healthy families and safe classrooms work on the principal that there's nothing so bad that we can't talk about it in the right way, but that there are behaviours we won't tolerate.



4. Model calm and rational thinking

High emotions are very contagious. When a child is angry, fearful or upset we can easily feel the same way. It's vital that we manage the ways that we react to our child's emotions so that we can provide an effective, empathetic response. The best way to manage our own reactivity when kids are upset is through breathing. Taking a breath gives us a moment to regain control and remain calm. We can then ask questions and logically think our way through the situation rather than catastrophising and letting our thoughts run amok. Adults who model calm, thoughtful behaviours in the face of stress show children and teenagers how to respond in safe, effective ways to stressful situations rather than reacting at an emotional level.

5. Encourage children to become independent problem solvers

When adults solve problems for children and young people, we not only increase their dependency on us but we teach them to be afraid of making mistakes and to blame themselves for not being good enough. That's fertile ground for anxiety and depressive illness. When your child brings a routine problem to you and expects you to solve it (such as leaving lunch at home or sorting out a friendship dispute), step back and invite them to resolve the problem for themselves instead. We don't want to deter kids from coming to us for advice when they have a difficulty, but we do want to encourage them and teach them to work through their concerns themselves.

Stepping back and allowing children and teenagers to experience many of life's challenges, whether social, academic or physical, can be a difficult thing to do for well-meaning adults. However, part of growing up means that children and young people need to develop the skills and aptitude they will need to manage a range of challenging situations well after they have left the safe confines of school and family.

As the research is telling us, the best way for them to do this is to allow our kids to navigate their challenges by themselves, surrounded by supportive, rather than over-protective, adults.