



ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 2010 Issue 11
10th August 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

Preparing for our Flexible Learning Space Supporting 21st Century Learning

"The Illiterate of the 21st Century will not be those who cannot read and write but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn" *Alvin Toffler*

Our new Learning Space will provide opportunity for 120 children and their teachers to engage in an open planned, flexible learning space.

This space will allow teachers and children to work cooperatively and collaboratively.

We know for this to happen, teachers will be required to replace current units of work. Importantly, we know that given our existing high level of teacher expertise and ability to work in teams, learning experiences will continue to bring "high yield" outcomes.

So what **might** it look like:

In our 4 designated Learning Spaces

Teachers will commence with explicit instructions—This is a time when teaching is modeled and shared.

At this point teachers using a variety of questioning skills and explicit instruction set the ground work for the session outcomes.

In our Open Space & Conference Room

Children now move into small cooperative groups working independently utilizing a variety of furniture and equipment.

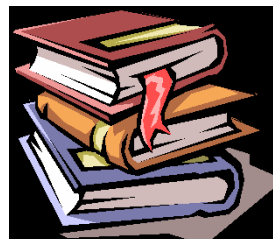
Teachers at this point continue to work with small groups. At this stage teachers are supporting specific needs within specific groups.

Support teachers monitor and work with dependent groups.

Our space will provide small independent groups with opportunity to:-

- ◆ Make & Design
- ◆ Dance & Song
- ◆ Connect locally, nationally and globally with other students.

Our learning space will contain equipment and furniture supporting all Key Learning Areas.



School Website:

www.stmichaelsblktn.parra.catholic.edu.au

Email:

stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

AUGUST

Mon 16th	Book Fair
"	Whole School Assembly—2.15pm
Tues 17th	Book Fair
Wed 18th	Book Fair
"	ICAS Mathematics Competition
"	St Michael's - Voice of Youth—Year 6
Thurs	Year 5 Bathurst Excursion
Fri 20th	Year 5 Bathurst Excursion
"	Kindergarten Excursion to Taronga Zoo
Sun 21st	FEDERAL ELECTION DAY
Mon 23rd	Book Week—Across the Story Bridge
"	Infants Assembly—2.15pm—2S presenting

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

GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ Mary MacKillop
- ◆ P & F Cookie Fundraiser
- ◆ Blacktown Library
- ◆ Sydney's Child



21st Century Learning requires us to create flexible learning spaces that are **Creative** by letting students:

- ◆ Build
- ◆ Create
- ◆ Collaborate

Our flexible learning centre will be student-centred. Within our learning space we know that "Team Building must be a component of every teacher's curriculum because learning can only begin when students feel secure with those who share their learning space." (3 Steps)

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL

RE NEWS

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Assumption. Since the 5th Century there has been an active tradition and belief around the assumption of Mary. The tradition states that Mary was physically 'taken up' into heaven at the end of her life. It is believed that her soul and her body remained united. This ancient belief was defined as an infallible teaching of the Church by Pope Pius XII in 1950. It is one of only two infallible statements that have been defined as such and both related to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast is celebrated on August 15 and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mrs. Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our Infants Assembly on 2nd August 2010:

- | | |
|--|--|
| KG
Olivia Fletcher
Lawrence Chdid
Ayouk Mow
Afrin Zahan | KO
Jordan Relunia
Benson Toms
Elexya Boulous
Lachlan Bojarski |
|--|--|

- | | |
|---|---|
| KP
Denica Brillo
Beatrice Gara
Nicholas Nilon
Leonard Reinoso | KW
Olivia Sultana
Biswas Simkhada
Connor Hayes
Ioanna Hatzianreou |
| 1K
Nikayla Tighe
Xavier Casipit
Patrick Tanios
Vincenzo Mauriana | 1L
Tahleah Robinson
Melissa Correia
Kailen Pascua
Devansh Sharma |
| 1M
Tara Phillips
Nicholas Ward | 2F
Miguell Gara
Taylah Henderson-Christie
Guise Abdalla
Sebastian Salman |
| 2L
Daniel Kuziah
Daniel Hernandez
Claudia Estrada | 2S
Elizabeth Grills
Krisha Narayan
Caleb Scerri
Sage Andary |

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our Primary Assembly on 10th August 2010:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3G
Thomas Sultana
Hannah Harvey
Bailey Young
Anton Bellett | 3R
Geraldine Vella
Charlie-Rose Bartlett
Claudia DeBartolo
Jayden Tighe |
| 3S
Justin Lopez
Bronte Newsome
Opia Inyasio
Montanna Farquharson | 3W
Angel Handa
Joshua Lin
Nicholas Bear
Natalia Sharma |
| 4C
Nadia Tong
Aaliyah Pereira
Joshua Lozada
Utkarsh Sharma | 4E
Julie Bayeh
Thea Abdalseed
Eden Randall
Gary Ho |

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4M
James Antonios
Louie Velasco
Sophia Kuku | 4S
Bethany Young
Daniel Baldacchino
Luella Champ |
|---|--|

- | | |
|--|---|
| 5B
Shai Kowalski
Bianca Cirjak
Joel Relunia
Joseph Cruz | 5K
Achan Majok
Jack Bartlett
Aaron Moller
Christopher Jbarat |
|--|---|

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5S
Peter Friday
Tabitha Lisciotta
Leah Hernandez
Michael Demirgellis | 6C
Jason Pinto
Kevin Yew
Georgia Beerens
Bernadette Pudadera |
|---|---|

**6E**

Daniel Alessi
Justin Smith
Katherine Lin
Tamara Luiz

6J

Joshua Relunia
Joshua Besterwitch
Natalia Curak
Olivia Sargent

6P

Rachel Osborne
Kamalpreet Sandhu
Nima Bahamrad
Isaiah Requieme

LIFE EDUCATION TIMETABLE

Wednesday, 11th August	5S, 4M & 2F
Thursday, 12th August	6E, 4E & 2S
Monday, 16th August	6P, 2B & 1K
Tuesday, 17th August	3S, 1O & 1L
Wednesday, 18th August	6J, 3W & 1M
Thursday, 19th August	6C, 3G & KP
Friday, 23rd August	KW, KO & KG

FROM THE LIBRARY

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE:

Congratulations to the following students who have completed their challenges.

Benjamin Vella—KG	Joshua Pinto—KW
Melissa Correia—1L	Marcus Correia—3W
Casey Vella—4C	Liann Aquino—4M
Jacinta Jarosz—4M	Mariah Correia—4S
Jason Pinto—6C	

Anyone still reading will need to hurry along. The Challenge finishes on 31st August, but as I need to validate all entries before then, could you please complete all reading, and let me know by Wednesday, 25th. Any forms sent after 31st will not be accepted by the organizers.

BOOK COVERING

Thankyou to all the wonderful parents who helped out with my call for help with book covering in the last newsletter. For a short time the shelves were empty, but we now have more new books to be covered. Aren't we lucky! Thankyou to Mr Laffan for the funds to buy lovely books.

BOOK FAIR

Our Annual Book Fair will take place next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Once again books will be supplied by Central Book Suppliers. We have been very pleased at previous Book Fairs with the range of books at very reasonably prices.

There is no obligation to buy books, but the school does receive a commission on total sales.

The Book Fair will be open at the following times for students:

8.30—9.00am each morning

3.00—3.30pm each afternoon

Parents will also have a quiet time from 2.45-3.00pm each afternoon.

If parents are unable to attend, children can bring money in an envelope to purchase a favourite story. Children will get a preview this week.

When visiting the Book Fair, have a look at all the wonderful work students have done as part of their Book Week competitions.

Mrs Judy Buhagiar

TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

McCAINS VEGGIE BARCODES

Collect points by sending in barcodes from McCAIN frozen vegetable and McCAIN Purely Potato packs to **Redeem points for veggie patch equipment for your school.**

- 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.

We currently have a total of 220 points and are looking to gather some more support... we have until the end of October to claim gardening prizes for our school.

Please send in barcodes to school with your children and teachers will be happy to collect them to be submitted.

"ACROSS THE STORY BRIDGE"

Celebrate Book Week 2010 at Max Webber Library, Blacktown. Come and join in the storytelling featuring short-listed books. Fun for the whole family. FREE! Thursday, 26th August, 6.30-7.30pm, Children's Area, Max Webber Library, Cnr Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown (Parking is available underneath the library. Enter from Alpha Street)



P & F NEWS

Our world has shrunk with the advent of the Internet. For most the Internet is used to purchase, to learn, to educate and for enjoyment.

For many, the Internet is also a major means of communication and for a number M.S.N., Facebook, Myspace, bebo and Twitter provide a great conduit.

As parents we have a responsibility to ensure that our children are safe from predators, are reading appropriate material and the games they play are age appropriate. This can be difficult when our knowledge of these sites is limited. It is also difficult to do this when unfettered internet is available in bedrooms.

The Federal Government has provided a website to give parents better information on keeping children safe and how best to work with your children on the internet.

Go to cybersmart.gov.au/parents.aspx

Did you know that at "Sign-up" on Facebook, you have to state that you are 13 yrs of age before you can create an account?

Parents Representative Council

Open learning is about to come to our school. It has been to many before us. What is Open Learning, how will it benefit our children and our school?

Greg Whitby, Director of Schools, Parramatta C.E.O., will chair a Q&A at:

Holy Spirit Primary, 7 Todd Row, St Clair
Wednesday 1st September 2010 7pm for a 7.30pm-9.00pm (Tea and Coffee served prior to start)

Please go to smspandf.blogspot.com to register for this event. I have posted a link to the official invitation and your chance to have a question responded to.

Mary McKillop Fundraiser

Please see the fundraising form in this week's newsletter to raise funds for the Mary McKillop beatification. Please have your forms and payment back by 25th August. Expected delivery date 14th Sept

Clothing Pool

All school polo shirts are available for sale, along with baseball, bucket, cricket hats and allergy caps. Drop in and see Doris or Lee-ann

Shop Hours

Wed, 2.00-3.00pm, Doris

Friday, 8.45-9.30, Lee-ann

Fathers Day Stall

The Father's Day Stall will be held on the 1st September. If you can volunteer your time to assist the P&F stall it would be much appreciated. Email or see one of us in the playground.

Pre-schooler's Morning Tea

The pre-schooler's morning tea is held in the Church hall every Wednesday morning.

This week, providing the weather is good, there will be a visit to Nano Cottage.

Contact Maryann 0411557728

Kind Regards
Paul Scott

CANTEEN

Burgermen are no longer available at the Canteen. Please cross these off your price list. Cheese & Bacon Balls will replace Burgermen at a cost of 65 cents.

We are having quite a few lunch orders coming in with wrong prices. Please use the **PINK PRICE LIST** Term 2, 1010. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest item cost.

Thank you,
Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER

GREEN ZONE

RECYCLING

In the Blacktown Council area, household recycling is done each fortnight. It is important to remember that we should only put in the bins, items that can actually be recycled. Also, we need to remember to rinse items and remove lids before recycling bottles and jars, NO plastic bags and DO NOT bag recyclables, wash and disinfect your wheelie bins regularly. Here are some more recycling DOs and DON'Ts: **PLEASE PLACE IN YOUR RECYCLING BINS: newspaper and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, steel cans, aluminium cans, plastic bottles and containers and milk and juice cartons.**

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN: Plastic bags, garden waste, medical waste, food scraps, polystyrene foam, clothes, chemicals and oils and nappies. Also keep these items out of your recycling bins: broken glass, building waste, car parts, syringes and other household items.

We can help our environment by simply changing the way we do things at home. Recycling is a quick and easy way that all the family can get involved in working towards a greener and cleaner environment.



Nano Nature Nurturers