



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 9
14th June 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

Last Friday's Staff Development Day was a definite step in our school community moving from **Good to Great**. Our leading learner for the day was Mrs Cheri Baddock and our Curriculum Team.

The days focus was **Understanding By Design**. Understanding By Design ("UBD") supports our own shared pedagogy that states:

"Teaching and learning experiences are to promote active learning and deep understanding which caters for individual needs and learning."

UBD requires us to think of "The Big Idea" that we want to explore with our children. This BIG IDEA is less about content ie memorized facts and more about how thinking and understanding will change.

And so, UBD, challenges us to provide learning experiences that will promote learning which will pass beyond the classroom eg:

- ◆ Are we still under the influence of the first Gold Rush?
- ◆ Is the Assylum Seekers issue proof that Democracy isn't working?
- ◆ Do all machines make life better?

These questions ensure that the **BIG IDEA** will:-

- ◆ Have many layers and nuances.
- ◆ Yield optimal depth of insight.

UBD is an exciting approach to teaching and learning ensuring that: ***"All students almost all the time exhibit higher order thinking"*** and again from our Pedagogy:

"That all students at St Michael's are engaged in activities that promote positive independence that are linked to life experiences"

At the end of our day each grade had completed a sizeable chunk of their thinking and planning for Term 3.

I sincerely congratulate my colleague teachers on their high levels of professionalism, energy and, yes, Deep Thinking.

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL



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

JUNE

Wed 15th	P & F AGM 1.30pm
Fri 17th	Primary Athletics Carnival
Mon 20th	Primary Assembly—3D presenting—2.15pm
Tues 21st	ICAS Spelling and Writing test
Mon 27th	Reports sent home to parents
Tues 28th	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed 29th	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thurs 30th	Year 4 Excursion to The Rocks and Observatory

JULY

Fri 1st	Term 2 concludes
Mon 18th	Term 3 commences for staff and students
Tues 26th	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
Wed 26th	Year 6 Canberra Excursion

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

GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ Bubbledome—July Holiday Workshop



RE NEWS

Sunday was the feast of Pentecost which celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples and energising them to set about their mission of continuing the ministry of Jesus. The actual events of that first Pentecost are recorded in the book of Acts and were recalled in this week's first reading. The gospel used on Sunday is a reminder that Jesus had already imbued the disciples with the Spirit but, as so often throughout his ministry, they were slow to understand the significance of what he had done. It seems that they needed a more tangible experience to jolt them into action and Acts records the very physical experience of the Spirit entering their midst as a roaring wind before settling upon them as tongues of flame. Jesus had breathed the Spirit upon them but it took the roaring wind to make a real impression on the disciples. There are frequent references in the gospels to Jesus being 'filled with the Spirit'. It is this Spirit with which he was filled that he breathed upon his disciples; it is that same Spirit that we receive sacramentally in Confirmation.

When they realised that the Spirit Jesus had breathed upon them was really present and urging them to action they finally had the courage to begin the mission that Jesus had entrusted to them: to spread the Good News of Jesus and continue to realise his message in the world.

Thank you to all who supported our mufti day last week. We raised over \$800 which will be used to purchase blankets to be given to St Vincent de Paul Society as part of our Sacred Heart Mass on Friday 1st July.

Mrs. Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our **INFANTS ASSEMBLY** on Monday, 6th June 2011:

KG

Marisa Telidis
Anabelle Castillo
Emily Abbas
Marina Ibrahim

KO

Jessica Gafa
Ella Suarez
Adam Cruz
Heramb Bamra

KS

Gabriel Matocinos
Alexis Rossi
Nicholas Sekwat
Kiarna Tighe

KW

Alice Durkin
Mitchell Tauro
Prisha Sharma

1L

DM Clavo
Sandra Gerges
Nasma Ibrahim
Adam Connor

1M

Angelena Haddad
Janbaz Saddhar
Shaun Blaje
Jordon Beavis

1O

Christina Girgis
Seth Williams
Ella Moggridge
Samuel Regan

1P

Michael Makarous
Adarsh Varma
Jasmine Attard
Jordon Beavis

2F

Adrian Scanlon
Reese Sto Domingo
Renae Sanga
Japleen Devgan

2H

Vanessa Salman
Nicholas Ward
Joshua McCahon
Christian Telidis

2S

Olivia Borg
Jacob Saad
Xavier Casipit
Noah Pomente

CANTEEN NEWS

We are still receiving lunch orders with wrong prices. Please make sure you are using the **WHITE** price list—2011 Term 1. Any wrong prices will be substituted to the nearest amount even if it is a sandwich.

We have had some mums return to work and this has left the roster short on two Fridays each month. If you can help, please come and see me in the canteen or leave your name and phone number on my home phone (9622 5703) or at school (9622 9910). There are only 7 rostered days for the remainder of the year.

Please remember this is a Peanut Butter, Nutella, Egg and Peanut free school.

The P & F have Large Brown Lunch Bags available for \$3.00 for 50 bags. These are available from the canteen or clothing pool.

Jan Crawford

CANTEEN MANAGER

Home Phone: 9622 5703 after 4.00pm

FROM THE LIBRARY

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE: Congratulations to the following 5 students who have now completed their reading challenge:

Mitchell Eckersley	2H
Nicholas Ward	2H
Amelia Xiberras	2B
Hannah Dickinson	5B
Jacintha Jarosz	5B

Well done to all of you.

BOOK COVERING: There are quite a few new books in the Library that require covering—especially hard covered books that use non-stick plastic. If you are able to help, please call in to the Library. All covering materials will be supplied.

Judy Buhagiar

TEACHER LIBRARIAN



FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH

MOBILE MUSTER

Do you have a drawer full of old mobile phones? We can help you!! In coming weeks St Michael's will take part in a **MOBILE MUSTER** where you can recycle your old mobile phones.

MobileMuster is the official recycling program of the mobile phone industry.

Initiated voluntarily by the Australian telecommunications industry in 1999, its overall aim is to prevent mobile phones ending up in landfill.

The program collects and recycles mobile phone handsets, batteries and accessories from a network of over 3,500 mobile phone retailers, local councils, government agencies and business drop off points across Australia.

MobileMuster is giving our school the opportunity to help our environment and at the same time receive some fantastic rewards for schools and students by simply rounding up and handing in old and unused mobile phones, batteries, chargers and accessories.

Did you know that if Australians handed in the 14-16 million unused or broken mobile phones hidden in desks and drawers across the country you could make:

- ◆ • 160,000 plastic fence posts (enough to build a fence from Sydney to Melbourne)
- ◆ • 31,000 gold wedding bands
- ◆ • 3.2 million Aluminium cans

Plus 13,867 tonnes future greenhouse gas emissions will be avoided which is equal to planting 84,000 trees, or taking 5,180 cars permanently off the road.

For more information visit www.mobilemuster.com.au

Kind Regards,

FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH TEAM

McCain School Veggie Patch

Primary schools around Australia and New Zealand are invited to build their own veggie patches and grow their own vegetables. To lend a helping hand, McCain is giving away over \$500,000 worth of veggie patch equipment to primary schools during 2011.

St Michaels in conjunction with the Nano Cottage are getting involved through hands-on experience. We can grow our own veggies with equipment and advice from McCain when we purchase products from the McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato range. Collect points by sending in barcodes from McCain frozen vegetable and McCain Purely Potato packs. We can redeem points for veggie patch equipment for our school

You can 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.**

The more points our school receives, the more veggie patch equipment we can redeem.

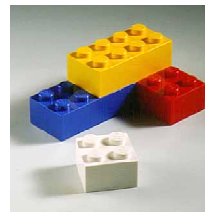
Barcodes = Points!

For more info visit mccainveggiepatches.com

Thanks for your help, Nano Nature Nurturers



DONATIONS OF LEGO



Many children enjoy playing with LEGO and we would like to offer children this activity as an alternative during recess and lunch. Therefore we ask that if you have any LEGO at home that is no longer needed could you please donate it to the school.

Please leave this donation of LEGO at the office. Thanks for your generosity.

Helen Boyer

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Have you every wondered how 3D movies like Toy Story and computer games are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and Games Design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop these holidays. Other courses in Science, Inventions and Technology are on offer this July. For students aged 6 to 18 years. Tel: 1800 115 562 or Email: info@bubbledome.com or Book online at www.bubbledome.com

SPORTS NEWS

PANTHER TROPHY RUGBY LEAGUE

Last Wednesday, 8th June the St Michael's under 11's Rugby League team had the opportunity to participate in the Panther Trophy competition at Whalan Reserve. It was a huge day with many schools in attendance. We started our campaign with a match against Wilmot. We lost this game 16-12 but had many opportunities to



win the game. Unfortunately the ball didn't bounce our way but we showed a great deal of potential. After this loss it looked very unlikely we would qualify for the finals.

Our next game was against Bligh Park who also lost to Wilmot 16-12. The boys clicked for this game and played magnificently winning 38-0. The boys showed what they were capable of and because of this big win we made the semis as the lowest qualifier. As the lowest qualifier we had to play the highest qualifier which was St Monica's. St Monica's won all of their games very easily and were the favourites to win the entire competition. This game was hard fought with both teams giving their all. We had held out our much larger opponents all game until the final minute. They scored which gave them the win 6-0. Had we held them out for another minute we would have won via penalty count back.

The improvements we made as a team from our first game to our last game was tremendous. The boys participated in good spirits and represented our school admirably. The team was as follows:
Terry-James Kairouz, Gregory Kelly, Aaron Cairns(C), Caleb Begg, Japhet Elias, Luke Barber, Christian Williams, James Antonios, Conner Scerri, Roman Koong, Hayden Hunter, Sebastian Rouss, Matthew Faumu and Zac Zadravec.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Just a reminder that **Friday, 17th June** is our Athletics Carnival (weather permitting). Please ensure your child is at school before 9am so we can get started on time. Everyone will be seated in the stands this year, however, parents will be seated in a separate section to children. Your cooperation on this matter is greatly appreciated.

Jeff Phillips
PE/SPORTS TEACHER

MUSICA VIVA

On Thursday the Infants classes were taken on a time-travelling journey of musical discovery. The students sailed the ocean with a prince, learnt a foot-stomping fisherman's dance, experienced a serving maid's holiday, celebrated a wedding, marched to the bagpipes and even danced the maypole. Using music, storytelling and drama, Pastance took the Infants classes on an exciting musical journey. We were even fortunate enough to see and hear a plethora of instruments such as the harp, recorders, fiddle, Baroque guitar, lute, bagpipes, dadabukka and bodhran.

Jo Lawson and Jacky Gaid
MUSIC TEACHERS

P & F NEWS

Hello all, hope your all keeping dry and warm in this weather.

GENERAL MEETING:

Our general Meeting is tomorrow the 15.6.11 at 1.30pm please come along and enjoy a cuppa and share in the information updates for our school.

SKOOL IS COOL PROMOTION:

This promotion is running again this year, so if your purchasing anything from the Good Guys at Prospect please mention our schools name and we receive \$1 for every \$20 spent.

FAMILY FUNDAY:

We are holding our Funday again this year on 18th September and would like anyone interested in joining our sub committee to help plan this day to contact Annie Murray 0418494030.

50th ANNIVERSARY:

Next Year our school is turning 50 and we would love to celebrate this in a big way so we are looking for people who would like to join a sub-committee for this event to contact Lee-Ann Dever 0437432313

CLOTHING POOL:

Girls Ties are now in stock we also have sports polos and winter jackets and a range of second hand clothing for sale any enquiries please call Lee-Ann Dever 0437432313

Have a great fortnight

Lee-Ann Dever

Vice-President

0437432313