



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 17
16th November 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Over the past weeks the strength and purpose of our community was evident in a number of events that spoke of our life as a growing community.

Through the celebration of the "Grandparents Liturgy", "Plant-a-Tree Day", "Kindergarten Information Night" and "Orientation Days", our school's Motto of "Love One Another" was very much given life. These events demonstrated the role and impact of the school in bringing together a diverse group of people.

During this same few weeks we also celebrated and gave thanks for children and their families through the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Once again I was taken by the strength and outreach of the St Michael's Faith Community. Through the leadership of our Pastor Fr Robert and Sr Grace our children and their families demonstrated a great faith and acceptance of Gods love in their lives.

All of this means "Good News" for all of us who choose to belong to this community. I believe that all of these moments reflect the words of John when he wrote...

"God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them". (John 4:16)

As a Catholic community our charter is simple and clear, we will continue to share with our children and their families the Motto which is our cornerstone "Love One Another".

In so doing we follow the words of our newest Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross...

"If we have love in our hearts we shall have God with us" (Mary MacKillop 1890)

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL



School Website:

www.stmichaelsblktn.parra.catholic.edu.au

Email:

stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

NOVEMBER

Sat/Sun 20/21	First Holy Communion Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.30am
Mon 22nd	Infants Assembly—1M presenting—2.15pm
Tues 23rd	Kinder Orientation 9.30-12.30pm
Mon 29th	K-2 Liturgy 9.30am
"	Primary Assembly—3G presenting

DECEMBER

Wed 1st	Pre-schoolers Christmas Party
"	Patrician Brothers' Orientation
Fri 3rd	Year 5 Leadership Day

PLEASE NOTE:

Thursday 16th December and
Friday 17th December are Staff
Development Days

The last day for student
attendance is:
**Wednesday
15th December**

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:

- ◆ Schedule of Fees for 2011
- ◆ World of Maths—Collage
- ◆ Thriving in a Learning Centre—Collage



RE NEWS

Next Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King. It is a cause for celebration! Christ is our King. Kings throughout history have sometimes been cruel, arrogant, greedy and even outright wicked. Others have been wise and benevolent leaders who protected and cared for their people. No prizes for guessing which type of King Christ is – and yet he is so much more as well. Jesus loved our world so much he died to save it, and now depends on us to make it more and more like the kingdom He wants us to have – a kingdom of peace, mercy, love and care for all people, especially the poor and the powerless. So how can we bring this Kingdom into our homes and school and community?

Mrs. Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a **CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT** at our whole school assembly on 8th November 2010:

KG Marina Simic Hunter Newsome	KO Shaun Blaje Lachlan Bojarski
KP Nicholas Nilon Issabelle Makdesi	KW Shanelle Agon Brendan Fares
1K Gune Inyasio Swaraj Parimi	1L Melissa Correia Olivia Borg
1M Nykoth Aguer Michael Kinsella	1O Clare Attard Julio Salgado
2B Owen Walker Thomas O'Callaghan	2F Breydan Koong Chloe Ornelas
2L Andre Tecson Mika Lansley	2S Emerson Barlow-Szoke Mina Gendy
3G Annabel Darmali Moya Inyasio	3R Charlie-Rose Bartlett Mason Stralow
3S Briana Car Jason Wormleaton	3W Emmanuel Ratnarajah Xanthie Roser
4C Jasmine Wormleaton Joshua Lozada	4E Arrienne Falsetta David Lee
4M Jacintha Jarosz Antonio Ayala	4S Rachel White Luella Champ

5B
Jessie Carr
Jacob Currie

5K
Archit Dhillon
Georgia Peterson

5S
Natasha Attard
Jack Groeneveld

6C
Jason Pinto
Georgia Beerens

6E
Michael Kassis
Rachel Depares

6J
Taylah Bindley
Aaron Brett

6P
Patrick Lee
Carina Lembo

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our primary assembly on 15th November 2010:

3G
Jeremy Kennedy
Kristine Markovic
Ayden Lisciotto
Angok Majok

3R
Reece McCahon
Hannah Bopf
Thomas Curak
Tayla Begg

3S
Rachel Gonzales
Luke Attard
Vincent Zaccheo
Ashan Varma

3W
Maksim Car
Ranye Abu Ganaba
Luke Barber
Aaron Collings

4C
Hannah Walker
Eldrin DeLeon
Alana Amabile
Andrew Kaskaniotis

4E
Kathryn Ydia
Eden Randall
Rhys Salman
Tianna Armstrong

4M
Angelo Montoya
Jai Uren
Daniel Hertel
Liann Aquino

4S
Noah Chen
Sofia Lansley
Marcelle Sader
Zahrah Khan

5B
Lauren Ward
Sinna Touto
Ben Scarcella
Joel Relunia

5K
Aleah Valmeo
Zachary Salman
Nicholas Femia
Achan Majok

5S
Zac Zadravec
Remas Elkander
Bethany O'Malley
Shentelle Singh

6C
Mariam Omar
Jonathan Estil
Nicole Groom
Gregory Kaskaniotis

6E
Patrick Estrada
Yaro Sanga
Adam Hanna
Silvia Salama

6J
Angelica Tabone
Paul Attard
Nikita Faatau
Joshua Besterwitch

6P
Manusiu Mafi
Natasha Hasna
Stephen Vassilopoulos
Michael Portelli



SKIP-A-THON

A huge thank you to all children, parents and teachers involved in the 2010 Skip-a-thon.

I am pleased to announce that our target of \$14,000 was surpassed and that total money raised is \$14,147.85.

Congratulations to Kyle Zammit (1K) who raised the most funds in K-2 grades and to Arrienne Falsetta (4E) who raised the most money in grades 3-6. Both these children will be awarded an 8GB iPod for their achievements. All prizes from our lucky draw will be distributed on Friday.

If you haven't returned your Skip-a-thon card and money please do so before Friday.

Once again thank you to our wonderful sponsors:

AMF Bowling **Blacktown Aquatic Centre**
Blacktown Workers Club **Blake Education**
Mrs Jan Crawford **Featherdale Wildlife Park**
J Lock Mobile Locksmiths **Blacktown RSL Club**
Australia's Youth Self-Defence Karate
Paul's Tennis Academy

Michael Siciliano

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PLANT-A-TREE DAY

Thank you to the wonderful parents and children below who came to our Plant-a-Tree Day to make our school more beautiful:

Paul, Kristy, Georgia & Lachlan Scott
 Helen Sutherland, Dante & Connor Carbone
 Margaret, Magdalene, Kataline, Peter, Matthew Faamu
 Lee-Ann, Teagan Dever
 James, Cristina, Stephen Murray Vassilopoulos
 Vicky, Michael, Andoni, Aglaya Papas
 Geoff, Samantha San Luis
 Avigalle Mendoza
 Joseph, Penny, Joachim, Francesco, Georgia,
 Angelica Tabone
 Vincent, Marisa, Jonathan, Lucas, Madeleine Tabone

GREEN ZONE

Marvellous Mulch

Mulch is a material that covers the soil to stop weeds growing and to encourage healthy plant growth. Mulch can be made from a variety of organic material. Applied on top of the soil in your garden, mulch helps to lock in the nutrients and moisture of your soil. Mulch makes your garden healthier and increases the biological activity in the soils.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN MULCH

Mulch is easy to make. Here a few quick tips:

USING LAWN CLIPPINGS: Rather than throwing your lawn clippings in the bin, leave them on the lawn when you mow. Scatter the lawn clippings around flower and vegetable plants. Lawn clippings are rich in Nitrogen, an important plant fertiliser.

USING GARDEN PRUNINGS: It's tempting to place small twigs, branches and leafy cuttings into the garbage bin, however, it's just as easy to turn these garden prunings into mulch. Arrange twigs, thin branches and leafy material in a long row and use the lawn mower to shred them. They are now ready to use on your garden.

THE BENEFITS OF MULCH

Helps to keep the weeds down – that's less work for you!

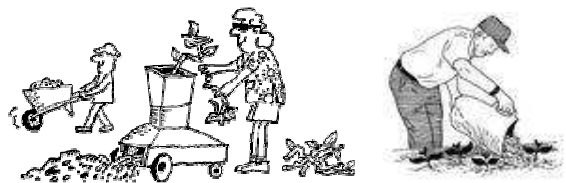
Reduces the need to use chemical sprays.

Mulching around plants keeps the roots cool in summer and warm in winter and helps maintain moisture.

You can water your plants less as mulch locks in moisture. Leaving grass clippings on the lawn saves you from buying expensive fertilisers.

Provides your plants with nutrients.

Mulch is multipurpose. Use it around plants, as a valuable additive to your compost, as an attractive surface for your garden paths or to provide a safe surface for children's play areas. Why not have a go and discover the marvel of mulch!



CANTEEN NEWS

We are having many lunch order bags with the incorrect money inside. Please use 2010 price list. All wrong prices will be changed to the nearest item. Please remind your child to put their lunch orders in as we have had a lot of late lunches over the past four weeks. Berri Pop Tops will be \$2.00 when the new stock arrives.

Thank you.

Jan Crawford

CANTEEN MANAGER

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA ANNUAL FEES FOR 2011

The Diocese has approved a three year strategy in relation to increases to Diocesan Tuition Fees. The overall net increase in the Diocesan Tuition Fee for 2011 will be 4.9%, in line with our increased costs whilst marginally under Educational CPI. However, Kindergarten fees will be reduced by 10.3% and held at this level for 2011-2013.

The sibling discount scheme continues on Diocesan Tuition Fees for families paying a full Diocesan fee on the eldest sibling. Sibling Discounts are 25% for the second child,



50% for the third child and 100% for the fourth and subsequent children attending systemic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta and St Dominic's College, Kingswood or systemic schools in the bordering Archdiocese of Sydney and Diocese of Wollongong and Broken Bay. Additionally, Principals have the discretion to give a discount of up to 10% on the total diocesan tuition fee where there are siblings attending congregational schools and the principal believes that the financial circumstances of a given family warrant some reduction.

Diocesan Tuition fees include a level of student accident insurance cover through Catholic Church Insurances Limited. This 24 hour cover is for school activities during school hours and other approved school activities outside school hours such as school camps, school sports, work experience and travelling to and from school. Please see attached Schedule of Fees for 2011 for your information

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all the families who have finalised their school fee account. Just a reminder that all fees were payable by the end of Term 3. If you still have outstanding school fees, and you have not made any arrangements, please contact Mrs Robyn Hoogenvest.

Resource Fee Accounts were mailed out by the Catholic Education Office on 15th October and reminders will be sent out this week. As we need to purchase resources for our students, we ask that these accounts be settled by the due date.

If you are unable to finalise by the due date, please contact Mrs Robyn Hoogenvest.

Extra curricular and Excursion Fee
Due to the addition of new activities, the Extra-curricular fee will be increased to \$40 for Infants students and \$50 for primary students (see enclosed flyer).

Thank you for your continued support.

REMINDER

If your child is not returning to St Michael's next year please advise the office immediately. Thank you

FROM THE LIBRARY

We have quite a lot of new books in the Library waiting to be covered, and only a few wonderful Mums doing lots of covering. If you would be able to help cover some books for us (even 4 - 5 would help), the students and teachers would be very grateful. All plastic is supplied. You can take books home to cover, or if you arrive at school early in the afternoon and are waiting for the bell, you can call in to the Library and cover some books there. Many thanks in anticipation.

Judy Buhagiar
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

ST MICHAEL'S PRAYER GROUP



Every Wednesday St. Michael's holds a prayer group in Mrs Easton's classroom. We pray a decade of the rosary, say the St. Michael's prayer and offer any intentions for people who are sick etc. All students who come can be

involved and every week there is a different theme. It only takes about 10 minutes. I would like to encourage all primary students to come and join in. It doesn't take long and it is a great opportunity for you to pray and thank God. We have had a few comers from year 4 and 6 who come every week but no-one from year 5. I always make announcements on Wednesday mornings and before we have the prayer group to let you know where and when it's held. So I hope to see you there or be square.



By Marisa Tabone—6E

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

My name is Patricia Batistic and I am a member of the St Michael's South Blacktown Garden of Remembrance Committee. With the blessing and cooperation of our parish priest, Father Robert Riedling we have decided to erect a Garden of Remembrance in the grounds of St Michael's.

The purpose of this garden is to remember our loved ones who are buried overseas or far away by placing their names on a special plaque to be attached to the Wall. It will then become a quiet place where family members can come and spend some quiet time in reflection. The first two names will be those of our former Parish Priests, Fathers Sidney Moseley and Kevin Dadswell.

In order to bring this project to a satisfactory and fitting conclusion, we need assistance with the following:

- Groundworks – levelling machinery to clear and level the area - supply of road base.
- Concrete footing – supply and fixing reinforcement – supply and place concrete
- Brick wall: bricklayer to lay approximately 1,200 bricks. Supply cement, sand, lime, brick ties, reinforce (brick tor)
- Artificial grass: supply and lay
- Garden furniture: supply aluminium seating
- Fountain and accessories – supply and install
- Concrete kerbing: supply and placement

If there are parents of students who would be willing to help us, they may contact the following members of the Committee:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| June Byrne | 9621 5091 |
| Raylee Grima | 9831 8074 |
| Pat Batistic | 9831 2002 |