



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 15
20th September 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

When I look over the last ten weeks I am amazed at all we have been able to achieve in such a short period of time.

Our children have had the opportunity to participate and excel through a wide range of academic, cultural and sporting activities.

Our children have demonstrated high levels of competency and confidence in participating in university exams, NAPLAN Assessments, Religious Education Assessments and of course ongoing class assessments.

Through high levels of teaching support, children have been given the opportunity of participating in Voice of Youth, Track & Field at representative level, Chess, Choral performance, Strings and of course our Creative Arts Expo.

All of these opportunities were made possible by the highly professional teaching and ancillary teams at St Michael's.

It is important to recognize a vital component of our community, the office team. The amount and calibre of the work produced in our school's office ensures our core business "Education" is maintained.

In respect to teaching and learning, I have been very impressed by the high standards of work being attained by our children. During this term we were able to conduct many exciting excursions including Canberra, Bathurst, Sydney, Taronga Zoo and of course Healthy Harold.

All of this amounts to a vibrant learning community, one that seeks to support the wholistic development of our children.

Finally, I wish to thank our Parents & Friends for their ongoing support.

Through the initiatives and hard work of Paul Scott, Leeann Dever, Annie Murray, Joanne Obote, Josephine Khairy and Marisa Khan we have been able to set in motion the **St Michael's Uniform Shop**. This shop will ensure top quality garments at competitive prices. Through our shop we can ensure consistency of garments with all profits supporting the re-sourcing of our school.

Last but not least, our Family Fun Day was a brilliant success. The sense of community and fun was everywhere and once again the hard work and passion of our Parent leaders is to be congratulated.

IMPORTANT:

**SCHOOL CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED ON
FRIDAY, 23rd September**

Regards,

**John Laffan
PRINCIPAL**



School Website:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Email:

stmichaelsblktr@parra.catholic.edu.au

SEPTEMBER

Wed 21st	Stage 2 Public Speaking Presentations— 1.30pm
Thurs 22nd	Stage 3 Public Speaking Presentations— 1.30pm
Fri 23rd	St Michael's Feast Day Opening & Blessing of the Father Kevin Dadswell Learning Centre
"	School closes for holidays.

OCTOBER

Mon 10th	Term 4 commences for staff and students
Thurs 13th	World of Maths—Yrs 1, 2 & 3
Fri 14th	World of Maths—Yrs 1, 2 & 3
Mon 17th	SKIP-A-THON WEEK
"	Infants Assembly—2H presenting—2.15pm
Tues 18th	Diocesan Indigenous Awards Evening
Thurs 20th	Year 1O & 1M excursion to Penrith Lakes
Fri 21st	Year 1P & 1L excursion to Penrith Lakes

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

GOING HOME with this Newsletter:

- ◆ Family Fun Day Collage
- ◆ Sydney Olympic Park School Holiday activities
- ◆ P & F News



RE NEWS

Over the last few weeks the Sunday Gospels have contained kingdom parables. A feature of the kingdom parables that Jesus used is a challenging 'shift' to the unexpected. Jesus only ever uses parables to describe what the kingdom is like, and never says exactly what it is or isn't. In each parable he compares the kingdom of God to something that would be familiar to a 1st century audience but then he twists the familiar and makes the challenging shift by making the familiar, unfamiliar. Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God disrupts our normal way of thinking, it turns our expectations upside down and it completely challenges our 'normal' relationships.

Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a statement, 'The kingdom is like ...'. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged.

Mrs Anne Easton
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy & Numeracy):

The National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy was held in Term 2 during 10-12 May 2011. Last week parents of students in years 3 and 5 received their child's NAPLAN results. These results display each child's individual student results, the national average and school average in reading, persuasive writing, language conventions and numeracy.

In year five the school average was above National average in reading, persuasive writing, spelling, numeracy and grammar and punctuation. In year 3 the school average surpassed national average in persuasive writing and spelling.

I would like to share the following statistics:-

Year 5

Reading—67% of students in the top 3 bands
Persuasive Writing—71% of students in the top 3 bands
Spelling—78% of students in the top 3 bands
Grammar & Punctuation—70% of students in the top 3 bands
Numeracy—64% of students in the top 3 bands

Year 3

Reading—65% of students in the top 3 bands
Persuasive Writing—83% of students in the top 3 bands
Spelling—76% of students in the top 3 bands
Grammar & Punctuation—71% of students in the top 3 bands
Numeracy—52% of students in the top 3 bands

The information presented above reflects the focus of our school community in areas of literacy and numeracy as part of our Implementation Plan. The information supplied in the NAPLAN reports together with school based assessments, portfolios, reports and ongoing assessments give parents and teachers information that can be tracked over your child's learning from Year 3 through to Year 5, 7 & 9.

The achievements in NAPLAN 2011 are a result of the ongoing partnership in teaching and learning between home and school.

SKIP-A-THON:

Your children have received their Skip-a-thon Sponsor cards. Could you please encourage your children to seek as many sponsors as possible eg. family, friends, work colleagues, neighbours etc.

Children will participate in the 2011 Skip-a-thon during their PE lessons Term 4 Week 2.

We would like to thank our sponsors:

Blacktown Aquatic Centre
Academy Photographers
Seton
Australia's Youth Self-Defence Karate
Paul's Tennis Academy
Featherdale Wildlife Park
AMF Bowling
Blacktown RSL
and many more

PUBLIC SPEAKING:

Congratulations to the following children who presented wonderful speeches at our annual Public Speaking Presentations:

KW	Prisha Sharma
KS	Madeleine Tabone
KG	Gabrielle Romero / Joachim Tabone
KO	Jessica Gafa
1M	Jack Cadorn
1P	Alana Milic
1O	Olivia Fletcher
1L	Stephanie Queixalos
2H	Lovreen Kumar
2F	Angeli Giannakopoulos
2B	Thomas Hurst
2S	Maddison Scerri
3W	Jessica Beigel
3D	Shreya Prasad
3G	Samantha San Luis
3S	Ravleen Kaur
4C	Geraldine Vella
4S	Jessica Figuero
4M	Valentine Sultana
4E	Annabel Darmali
5S	Jumana Khan
5P	Simrani Prasad
5K	Aswithaa Visakesewaren
5B	Michelle Lin
6E	Marina Gendy
6C	Kiano Pomenta
6J	Heidy Soriano

ICAS—ENGLISH:

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

**Year 3**

Anuroop Dhillon Credit
Aidan Tong Credit

Year 4

Luke Barber Credit
Annabel Darmali Credit
Joshua Lin Credit

Year 5

Hannah Walker Credit
Liann Aquino Credit
Luella Champ Credit
Jacinta Jarosz Distinction
Zahrah Khan Credit
Michelle Lin Credit
Shanna Raj Credit
Sargun Saddhar Credit
Utkarsh Sharma Credit

Year 6

Rebecca Phillips Credit
Lauren Ward Credit

AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Primary Assembly on 12th September 2011:

3G

Gabrielle Gumatay
Sarah Sepulveda
Lachlan Cook
Ashley Femia

3D

Sebastian Salman
Lily Hardman
Daniel Cutlac
Krisha Narayan

3S

Jessica O'Brien
Aubrielle Zafra
Paige Hodgson
Matthew Cirjak

3W

Petar Barisic
Avneet Sanghera
Sevasti Kotrolas
Blake Graham

4C

William Gafa
Jorge Capati
Montanna Farquaharson
Keanna Vale

4E

Ayden Lisciotto
Luke Barber

4M

Jessica Relunia
Marcus Correia
Max Cyreszko
Angel Handa

4S

Jessica Figueroa
Matthew Hasna
Reece McCahon
Briana Car

5K

Andrew Kaskaniotis
Nicholas Urludag
Mina Asfour
Jonathan Tabone

5P

Cassandra Murray
Simrani Prasad
Domadius Meina
Aaron Cairns

5S

Tenika DeSouza
Blake Smith
Bethany Young
Noah Chen

6C

Adrianna Bocchi
Aaron Moller
Ben Scarcella
Shai Kowalski

6J

Grace Regan
Ly Nguyen
Laura Robertson
Haile Zabala

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at the Infants Assembly on 19th September 2011:

KG

Isabella Cuthbert-Martin
Danny Yazbek
Hima Pandey
Nikshay Nand

KO

Liam Dever
Annabelle Spiteri
Sami Sader
Kayla Zerafa

KS

Prem Mondeddu
Emma Golic
Matthew Carino
Kimberley Quai-Hoi

KW

Vibie Elkander
Steven Elomina
Emma Santa Maria
Ella Daniel

1L

Gerard Abadines
Manjot Sanghera
AJ Abdallah
Madelen Khairy

1M

Olivia Sultana
Lawrence Chdid
Beatrice Gara
Biswas Simkhada

1O

Marianne Athanosopoulos
Olivia Fletcher
Jason Singh
Anthony Siderides

1P

Benson Toms
Nicholas Nilon
Haidyn McCahon
Rebecca Pearce-Amato

2F

Ashton Williams
Keira Randall
Gloria Cinya
Lucas Afarian

2H

Mariam Abdelmasih
Prosa Rouss
Blake Doolin
Rhyce Muscat

2S

Manam Sefeem
Tahlia Lewis
Jordan Blaje
Thomas Uren

LIBRARY NEWS

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Rebecca Pearce-Amato of 1P who completed her Reading challenge, but was omitted from the Newsletter reports. I do apologise. If there is any other student who did not get listed in a newsletter, please come to see me so I can make sure your efforts are acknowledged.

BOOK WEEK

A BIG **THANKYOU** to **everyone** who helped make our Book Week celebrations so much fun.

To the **Parents** who put so much time into the costumes for the Dress up parade.

To the **Teachers and Students** who "became" the book characters and did not let the rain dampen our enthusiasm.

To the **Parents** who helped out on the sales desks at the Book Fair – I couldn't do without you.

To the **Parents and Students** who purchased books. I'm sure you will get a lot of pleasure from your purchases.



To the **students** who participated in the competitions and whose work is making the Library look so colourful.

BOOK FAIR

We sold a massive total of \$4,800 worth of books this year, which will give us a commission of approximately \$900 to spend on new Library resources. A great result.

BOOK COVERING

I would also like to add a special **THANKYOU** to all the Mums who help cover our Library and Reading Room books. The children, Staff and I really appreciate your efforts. Whether you cover 20 books, or 200 books (as some covers do) everything helps immensely.

Judy Buhagair
TEACHER/LIBRARIAN

SPORTS NEWS

Tomorrow signifies the end of a fantastic athletics season with the Mackillop Carnival being held at Blacktown Olympic Park. St Michael's have 5 talented athletes competing & they are: Tabitha Lisciotto, Jack Groeneveld, Remas Elkander, Matthew Dudgeon & Marcus Correia. Its a huge accomplishment to qualify for such an event. Congratulations also to Mariah Correia who was age champion at our zone carnival earlier this term.

For our school carnival our age champions were as follows:

Junior Champions:

- Female** **Nosa Shata**
- Male** **Hayden Hunter**
- Junior R/Up:**
- Female** **Lily Hardman & Flavia Aya**
- Male** **Ivan Radacic**

Senior Champions:

- Female** **Mariah Correia**
- Male** **Peter Friday**
- Senior R/Up:**
- Female** **Tabitha Lisciotto**
- Male** **Jack Groeneveld**

The Champion House for athletics this year is: **Red**.

Blue & Red were even at the completion of the carnival, however Red just crossed the line in front after completion of all events at school. A big thankyou needs to be extended to our parents who helped out on all occasions, without your support these carnivals can not happen! In a side note the little A's season is about to begin. Get involved!

Mr Jeff Phillips
SPORTS/PE TEACHER

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 mccainveggiepatches.com

CANTEEN NEWS

Thank you to the one mum who has volunteered for Friday, we still need 3 extra people. Two on Thursday 9.00am-1.30pm.

Thank you to all the mums and dads for your help during Term 3.

There will be **NO CANTEEN ON FRIDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER** due to the Opening and Blessing of the Father Kevin Dadswell Learning Centre.

Please check your roster and if you can't make your day please ring as early as possible as it is hard to get replacements after 9.30am.

Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER

COMMUNITY NEWS

ATTENTION: Ex-John Paul II Senior High School, Marayong students. A 20 year reunion is being held for the Graduating Class of 1991 on **Saturday, 1st October 2011**. Please join the facebook group "JP II Graduating Class of 1991" or contact f.sodeau@aapt.net.au for full details.

FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH

SEED PLANTING STALL:

A big **thank you** to all the children and parents who purchased a seed packet, soil, potted plant or planted a seed at our Family Fun Day Stall. We had a great day and successfully raised \$67 for our school!!!

We will be back bigger and better next year.

To all the children who planted a seed, keep watering it, and in the next few days your seed will slowly grow into a plant. Happy gardening!!!

LOST PROPERTY CLEAN UP:

The lost property bin will be cleaned up **this Friday**. All jackets and jumpers with no labels will be donated to the school clothing pool. Those that have labels will be returned to the child.

As the seasons get warmer, we will hopefully see less lost property, but we hope to do another iron on label day early next term.

Happy holidays! See you in Term 4.
FRIENDS OF OUR EARTH TEAM