



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 14
21st September 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

On behalf of all my colleagues I sincerely thank you for your ongoing support and participation throughout Term 3. Through our leadership of the P & F, attendance at meetings, support through our canteen, sporting events, excursions, uniform shop, library support and most importantly classroom support.

In school your work assures our success in meeting goals and living out our Vision & Mission.

NAPLAN

Confirming our successes as well as our challenges

Assessment data becomes a high yield gain when:

1. It comes from a variety of sources;
2. When it is worked through by analysis and rigorous discussion resulting in definite future planning.

2010 NAPLAN RESULTS

Confirm:

1. Our school continued growth in all aspects of literacy with results in Years 3 & 5 being above the **National Average**.
2. **Growth:** Our Year 5 children have scored outstanding growth in both Literacy and Numeracy.
3. Numeracy continues to be our greatest challenge.

All our data throughout 2010 is indicating our children are able to read and comprehend Mathematical problems, however, the data from a variety of analysis tools is indicating some Mathematical operations—computation require more explicit support.

Once again I want to stress our greatest aim being—**ALL** children must grow.

I have invited Mr Siciliano to include a piece of information on our growth.

The 2010 NAPLAN Results have shown evidence of growth in the area of Numeracy.

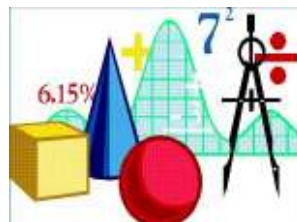
The current Year 5 students have displayed growth in numeracy when comparing results they achieved in 2008 and 2009. There is an average growth in numeracy of 88 points. This average growth is above the average growth of schools in the Parramatta Diocese.

Growth from Year 3 to 5 in numeracy is evident when we compare the percentage of children in the top 3 bands. In Year 3 39% of our current Year 3 scored in the top 3 bands where as in Year 5 48% of children scored in the top 3 bands in numeracy. That is an increase of 9%.

At St Michael's we will continue to focus in developing mathematical understanding as part of our strategic framework.

Regards,

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL



School Website:

www.stmichaelsblktn.parra.catholic.edu.au

Email:

stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

SEPTEMBER

Wed 22nd	Stage 2 Public Speaking Presentations
Thurs 23rd	Stage 3 Public Speaking Presentations
Fri 24th	St Michael Feast Day Mass
"	Term 3 concludes

OCTOBER

Mon 11th	School resumes for Term 4
Wed 13th	Pre-Schoolers Morning Tea 9.30-11.00am
Mon 18th	Skip-a-thon Week
"	Infants Assembly—2L presenting—2.15pm
Tues 19th	Diocesan Indigenous Awards Night—5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes
Wed 20th	1L & 1M excursion to Penrith Lakes
Fri 22nd	1K & 1O excursion to Penrith Lakes
Mon 25th	Primary Assembly—4S presenting—2.15pm
Wed 27th	P & F AGM

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:

- ◆ Blacktown City Council—School Holiday Guide
- ◆ Open Learning Space—Open Day
- ◆ P & F News



RE NEWS

As we approach the Feast of St Michael it is timely to look at the role angels play in the Gospels. Prior to the accounts of the Gospels, no prophet or angel spoke to God's people for 400 years. This period of time was like a season of winter: cold, dark and silent. But when the appointed time came that all of creation had been waiting for, up came the long-awaited Branch of David, the first signs of new life beginning.

A new spiritual season took place. With it came a distinct prophetic change between the angelic messages of the Old Testament and those of the New Testament. It is important to note that the ministry of angels in the Gospels was to bring forth messages of comfort and peace, rather than judgment and destruction.

When Jesus was born, an atmosphere of peace descended upon the land for those who had been watching and waiting for the promised Messiah. No wonder all of the heavenly hosts rejoiced at his birth, for Jesus Christ himself was called the Prince of Peace.

Since the spiritual condition of humankind hinged on the life and ministry of Jesus, God took great care in announcing through an angel the birth of John the Baptist, the one who would prepare the way for Jesus' ministry. God also ensured that Jesus would not lose heart in his brief moments of despair in the Garden of Gethsemane by sending ministering angels to comfort him. Angels were the servants who stood ready to do whatever God asked of them at the most important time in the history of all of creation.

Mrs. Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

EUCCHARIST CELEBRATION FOR THE CANONISATION OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

All Welcome

to join Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP
for a Eucharistic celebration for the canonisation of

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Sunday, 31st October 2010

Morley Centre, Westmead Catholic
Education Precinct,
Darcy Street, Westmead

This Eucharistic celebration will be preceded by
music, dance and testimony by the youth of
the Diocese of Parramatta.

Afternoon tea will follow.

Program commences at 1.30pm
Please be seated by 1.15pm

Ample parking is available off Darcy Street,
opp. Westmead Private Hospital



AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a
MERIT CERTIFICATE at our Primary Assembly on
13th September 2010:

3G

Jeroen Salvador
Matthew Golic
Bianca Queixalos
Nansy Koko

3S

Esconda Fozi
Emily Hartsuyker
Julian Cefai
Francesca Maiurana

4C

Brittney Williams
Jasmine Wormleaton
Connor Scerri

4M

Claudia Howard
Aswithaa Visakeswaran
Lachlan Cremin-Darkin
Taylor Hayes

5B

Teigan Muscat
Shabrit Sidhu
Jack McCabe
Jayden Borg

5S

Emily Simpson
Shania Arab
Jack Groeneveld
Jonathan Salvana

6E

Justin Smith
Rachel Depares
Beshoi Butros
Mikaelle Velasquez

6P

Trisha Cabuay
Liam Dickinson
Carl Cruz
Nima Bahramrad

Congratulations to the following students who received a
MERIT CERTIFICATE at our Infants Assembly on
20th September 2010:

KG

Ryan Moller
Matthew Wormleaton
Shianne Kairouz
Michael Makarous

KP

Peter Cinya
Pavithran Visakesewaren
Sandra Gerges
Nasma Ibrahim

1K

Xavier Caspit
Natasha Khan
Noah Pomente
Swaraj Parimi

3R

Jessica Relunia
Jacob Ostler
Aglaya Papadokokolakis
Salim Touto

3W

Jim Abdalla
Alexandria Giuliano
Xanthee Roser
Emmanuel Ratharajah

4E

Blake Smith
Cassandra Murray
Alexandra Valderrama

4S

Michele Besterwitch
Jumana Khan
Puis Baraji
Simon Koutoulas

5K

Annette Iskander
Aaron Prasad
Tomas Angulo
Tenisha Roser

6C

Amitoz Gill
Jada Stralow
George Saad
Michele Sammarco

6J

Desa Espiritu
John Aziz
Dylan Doble
Natalia Curak

KO

Ellie Debian
Jasmine Attard
DM Clavo
Jordan Relunia

KW

Brendan Fares
Samuel Regan
Roan Dantoc
Bryce Long

1L

Anton Marincic
Sayer Touto
Rosy Muscat
Kailen Pascua



1M
Angelina Ayala
Lovreen Kumar
Ethan Roychoudhry
Mina Kassis

2L
Martin Aguel
Claudia Estrada
Andre Tecson
Haeley Soriano

1O
Vincent Aquino
Frankie Zaccheo
Chloreee Ocampo
Jermaine Borja

2S
Samantha San Luis
Sinead Beavis
Benito Montalbano
Harry Attard

ICAS—ENGLISH COMPETITION

Congratulations to our students who achieved outstanding results in the 2010 English Competition and Assessment:

Year 3:

Hannah Harvey
Joshua Lin

Vishal Kumar
Geraldine Vella

Year 4:

Aswithaa Visakeswaran
Rolan Gonzales
Shanna Raj

Lianne Aquino
Michelle Lin

Year 5

Rebecca Phillips

Year 6:

Rachel Depares
Mitchell Roseby

Jason Pinto

MUSICA VIVA

On Wednesday, 15th September the infants children were treated to a concert by Musica Viva group, Humming Birds. The concert gave the children the opportunity to interact with an cappella quartet. They shared their varied experiences in singing ranging from Jazz, African-American vocal styles to Eastern European singing.

The Humming Birds performed popular songs and movement from gospel to soul, from blues to folk music and from doo-wop to lullabies performed in four-part harmonies. Singing without accompaniment to showcase the emotional power and flexibility of the voice. They kept us inspired and informed about the joys of creating music with the one instrument that we all have!

Mrs Joanne Lawson
MUSIC TEACHER

CANTEEN NEWS

Please check your children's bags as last week I sent out canteen bills that need to be paid.

Thank you to all parent helpers for your help in Term 3 and thank you to all who donated items to the canteen. I hope you all have a safe, enjoyable and restful holiday and I am looking forward to working with you in Term 4.

Jan Crawford
CANTEEN MANAGER

LIBRARY NEWS

We would like to thank everyone who has assisted the Library with book covering, however, we do have quite a few more books that still need to be covered. If you are able to help, please call into the Library before or after school. Plastic will be supplied. All help is greatly appreciated.

GREEN ZONE

McCAIN SCHOOL VEGGIE PATCH:

St Michael's is off to a great start and we thank local supporters for the points donations made so far. We are eager to continue our **McCain School Veggie Patch** adventure and urge everyone to keep up the great work by collecting McCain barcodes for our school. We have a total of 450 points and we are looking forward to gathering even more support! If you are not sure about which barcode... just send it into school anyway. We will sort it out for you. We have until the end of October to keep collecting barcodes. Thankyou for your help!

PASSING ON THE MALTESE CULTURE IN AUSTRALIA

Hi my name is Angelica Tabone and I am in 6J. Not long ago I received a letter in the mail saying that I had been selected to receive a 2010 Highly Commended Award for excellence in student achievement in Maltese. I had been nominated for this award by my Maltese teacher.

When the night came round not only was I there but about another 132 children were there as well to receive their award. We were all given our spots to sit in and when we were all settled they started giving out the Ministers Awards. The 10 Ministers Awards were given out by the Minister for Education and Training, The Honourable Verity Firth.

The next awards given out were the highly commended awards and 44 students received those awards. I was one of that 44 and received my award from Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter who is the Director General of Education and Training and the Managing Director of Tafe NSW.

I was honoured to receive my award but the most breathtaking part of the night was seeing the elegant and beautiful costumes from other nationalities and seeing everyone take part. The students that were there, all the 132 were only a small portion of 28000 children studying different languages.

Doing this makes me proud to be Maltese and when I grow up I hope to pass on my cultural knowledge to younger generations.

Written by Angelica Tabone





2S VISIT ST HEDWIG RETIREMENT VILLAGE

On Wednesday, 8th September, 2S visited St. Hedwig Retirement Village. The children sang songs to the wonderful residents that they had already met last term on our previous visit. The residents clapped and swayed to the music and you could sense that for a moment they felt young and free again. The children just made their day!



Later, the children and residents ate cookies together for morning tea and had a lovely chat. They talked about school, friends and their families.



Finally, the children got to join in their bingo game! We all had a fantastic time together and now we are looking forward to learning a German song and visiting the village again next term!

Mrs. Lisa Sebelic

SKIP-A-THON REMINDER

Our 2010 Skip-a-thon will be held in Week 2 of Term 4 during normal PE lessons.

Please continue to collect sponsors during the school holidays as all money raised goes towards purchasing IT resources for our school.

All children who participate in the Skip-a-thon are eligible to win a great prize in the huge Skip-a-thon raffle.

If every child in our school raised just \$20 our total for 2010 would be over \$14,000. Thanks for your support.

Michael Siciliano
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

ASTHMA RECORDS

Asthma Record Cards have been sent to parents of students who have been identified as suffering from asthma. If you do not receive an "Asthma Record Card" to complete please contact the office. If your child has recently been diagnosed with Asthma and you have not notified the office please do so immediately. Many thanks.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the Public Speaking Presentations:

- KG Ella Moggridge
- KG Hunter Newsome
- KO Marianne Athanasopoulos
- KO Jasmine Rossi
- KP Matthias Barrett
- KP Pavithran Visakesewaren
- KW Roan Dantoc
- KW Bryce Long
- 1K Kyle Zammit
- 1K Caitlyn Lee
- 1L Lucas Tabone
- 1L Melissa Correia
- 1M Felicia-Jo Thompson-Sciberras
- 1O Maddison Scerri
- 2B Ravleen Kaur
- 2F Ivana Zlendich
- 2L Ashley Galea
- 2S Luke Osborne
- 3G Bianca Queixalos
- 3R Geraldine Vella
- 3S Emily Hartsuyker
- 3W Joshua Wehbe
- 4C Hannah Dickinson
- 4E Jason Barrak
- 4M Liann Aquino
- 4S Jumana Khan
- 5B Shabrit Sidhu
- 5K Aleah Valmeo
- 5S Shania Arab
- 6C Natasha Gatto
- 6E Rachel Depares
- 6E Khang Nguyen
- 6J Jason Ghattas



TERM 3—UNIFORM

During the first two weeks of Term 3 the weather can be unpredictable. Children are permitted to wear either Winter or Summer Uniform during this period. You will be notified when all children will be expected to come to school in full Summer Uniform.