



# 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 12  
24th August 2010

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Friends,

### 21st Century Teaching & Learning

Over the past year we have examined 21st Century Teaching & Learning. We have seen how our work in preparing our children for 21st Century working environments requires new approaches in teaching & learning.

In other words how we were taught and how we learnt requires some change and evolution.

Today I have included some information around how teaching and learning might look in our open learning space.

#### Co-Teaching in the Regular Classroom: The Advantages of Two

Co-Teaching, the practice of having two or more educators in a classroom, delivering or assisting in the daily lesson, is becoming more common in today's school. The No Child Left Behind Act, more standardized testing and the inclusion laws require schools to find alternative ways to deliver instruction and meet the needs of a larger variety of students. Co-teaching can be done in several ways, and can range from a second teacher simply visiting the classroom to see what instruction is going on, and to assist anyone who seems to need a little extra help, to team teaching, in which both teachers plan, deliver and assess the student's work.

#### Co-Teaching Methods

Several articles give guidelines and the responsibilities for the two teachers who are co-teaching, the following information, from "Collaborative Teaching" ([www.parrotpublishing.com/Inclusion\\_Chapter\\_3\\_htm](http://www.parrotpublishing.com/Inclusion_Chapter_3_htm)) explains several different models of co-teaching require different efforts on the parts of the teachers.

For example:

- One Teaching—One Observing:** This method takes little joint plan time, but gives the non teaching teacher a chance to see the curriculum in play, train in co-teaching situations, and gives an extra person to meet the needs of all students.
- One Teaching—One Drifting:** This method takes little joint plan time, special education teachers can be used as an aid for all students. Allows resource teachers to visit/help a variety of classrooms.
- Station Teaching:** Both teachers have specific responsibilities in the classroom. Lower teacher/student ratio. Students with disabilities can be included more often in groups.
- Parallel Teaching:** Lower teacher/student ratio, creativity, independent lesson planning.
- Alternative Teaching:** Re-teaching, small groups.
- Team Teaching:** Shared responsibility in teaching and planning, creative freedom for teachers.



**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**  
**10th September 2010**  
**This is a pupil free day.**

#### School Website:

[www.stmichaelsblktn.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmichaelsblktn.parra.catholic.edu.au)

#### Email:

[stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### AUGUST

<i>Wed</i> 25th	St Michael's Planting/Greening Day
<i>Thurs</i> 26th	Cluster Voice of Youth—Cluster Final
<i>Fri</i> 27th	Diocesan Athletics Carnival
<i>Mon</i> 30th	Primary Assembly—3S presenting—2.15pm
<i>Wed</i> 1st	Father's Day BBQ 7.30am—Liturgy 8.30am Father's Day Stall
<i>Thurs</i> 2nd	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
<i>Fri</i> 3rd	Year 6 Canberra Excursion
"	Father's Day Liturgy
<i>Mon</i> 6th	Infants Assembly—KO & KW presenting 2.15pm
<i>Fri</i> 10th	<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</b>
<i>Mon</i> 13th	Primary Assembly—5S presenting—2.15pm

#### 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:

- ◆ Learning Outside the Classroom—Kindergarten
- ◆ Learning Outside the Classroom—Year 5
- ◆ Tallawong Little Athletics
- ◆ Parent Tutor Program

**Advantages of Co-Teaching to the Teachers:**

The advantages of co-teaching seem obvious. Fewer students to teacher ratio, alternative teaching methods, individual attention and modified assignments and assessments are just a few of the obvious advantages include the following:

**Advantages for All Students:**

1. More time spent working cooperatively and learning content
2. Strong emphasis on learning skills, organizational responsibility, and preparedness
3. Diverse learning techniques and teaching techniques
4. Improved self esteem
5. Opportunities for leadership and growth within the least restrictive environment
6. Less fear of failure
7. Better or more meaningful grades

Regards,

John Laffan  
**PRINCIPAL**

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## RE NEWS

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Last Sunday's Gospel made it clear that to gain salvation, you have to do more than just show up! Like those knocking on the locked door and claiming friendship, we can't just turn up at the last minute and expect to be received. Salvation – entrance into the kingdom of God – belongs to those who accept the message of Jesus and act on it for the rest of their lives. For us it is easy if you truly live out our school motto "Love One Another".

Mrs. Anne Easton  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

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## AWARDS

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Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our Infants Assembly on 12th August 2010:

**KW**  
Roan Dantoc  
Jevon Stanic  
Madelen Khairy  
Shanelle Agon

**KO**  
Zack Hardman  
Ellie Debian  
Liam Cruz  
Haidyn McCahon

**KG**

Khushi Shah  
Emily Bonello  
Madison Wright  
Jaydan Arias

**1L**

Anton Marincic  
Marian Sefeem  
Rojhat Kaygusuz

**1K**

Declan Surez  
Alexander Stanley-Dawson  
Ashton Williams  
Christian Telidis

**2L**

Lachlan Cook  
Helen Abbera  
Analese Vella  
Silvia Obote

**KP**

Jason Singh  
Dhruv Mali  
Nasma Ibrahim  
Ava Roach

**1O**

Renaee Sanga  
Tahlia Lewis  
Tushar Puthran  
Andrew Suhaili

**2F**

Ivana Zlendich  
Hayley Vella  
Sahil Punjwani  
Chloe Ornelas

**2B**

Caitlin McCabe  
Andrew Jones  
Raveleen Kaur  
Anok Angok

Congratulations to the following students who received a **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** at our Whole School Assembly on 16th August 2010:

**KG**

Stephanie Queixalos  
Rory Walker  
Tijana Sammut

**KO**

Camilla De La Piedra  
Yanez  
Jasmine Rossi  
Benson toms

**KP**

Jordan Beavis  
Shanelle Raj

**KW**

Nathaniel Darmali  
Jevon Stanic  
Ioanna Hatziandreou

**1L**

Leelah Williams  
Lucas Tabone

**1M**

Lucas Afarian  
Krystal Sultana

**2F**

Matthew Cirjak  
Fattu Allieu

**2L**

Aaron Abbas  
Mika Lansley

**2S**

Sinead Beavis  
Darius Meina

**3G**

Vanessa Abouhamad  
Vishal Kumar

**3R**

Caitlyn Gibbins  
Aretha Iskandar

**3S**

Ashna Varma  
Pinak Sharma

**3W**

Marcus Correia  
Marjorie Laquian

**4C**

Georgia Tabone  
Tina Aganovic

**4E**

Garry Ho  
Sargun Saddhar

**4M**

Liam Aquino  
Izak Xiberras

**4S**

Joanne Candor  
Roman Koong

**5B**

Shabrit Sidhu  
Haile Zabala

**5K**

Heidy Soriano  
Tarnpreet Kaur



**5S**  
Tabitha Lisciotta  
Kathlyn Bagay

**6E**  
Tamara Luiz  
Mitchell Roseby

**6P**  
Kamalpreet Sandhu  
Michael Capati

Congratulations to the following students who received a **MERIT CERTIFICATE** at our Infants Assembly on 23rd August 2010:

**KO**  
Taylah Biegel  
Vanessa Portelli  
Marianne Athanasopoulos  
Janbaz Saddhar

**KP**  
Jaiman Godla  
Ayden Williams  
Trey Rajwani

**1K**  
Anthony Abouhamad  
Sara Santa Maria  
Andrei Figueroa  
Gune Inyasio

**1M**  
Johan Dantoc  
Emma Depares  
Stella Lellis  
Jacob Saad

**2B**  
Caitlin McCabe  
Lily Hardman  
Joshua Young  
Bella Debian

**2L**  
Jerissa Valmeo  
Aiden Tong  
Jasmine Stanley-Dawson  
Martin Aguel

**6C**  
Jude Zaragoza  
Bianca Quinlan

**6J**  
Aaron Brett  
Kirstie Santos

**KW**  
Lachlan Robertson  
Olivia Sultana  
Hannah Witteveen  
Erik Yu

**1L**  
Nicholas Pezzano  
Sohum Shah  
Erika Yu  
Olivia Borg

**1O**  
Jacinta Bayeh  
Chloreese Ocampo  
Jeydan Sami  
Cherise Bartolome

**2F**  
Anroop Dhillon  
Anthony Simic  
Breydan Koong  
Jessica Biegel

**2S**  
Emerson Barlow-Szoke  
Ashleigh Witteveen  
Jay Shah  
Ryan Santa Maria

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## SCHOOL FEES

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School Fees are now due, if you have paid thank you. If you have any concerns regarding payment please contact Robyn Hoogenvest on 9622 9910.

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## SACRAMENTAL PROCESS—STARTING SOON

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Families with children in Years 2 and older, who are members of St Michael's Parish are invited to register for the Sacramental Program.  
**How to do it?**

1. If your child is in Year 2—the teacher will distribute the enrolment package to you at school.
2. If your child is older, please, pick up an information letter and registration form from the back of the Church when you come to Mass on weekends or visit the Church for your private prayer on weekdays.

The Registration Form needs to be returned (in person) to Sr Grace at the Parish Office by **Friday, 10th September**. Sr Grace is in the office every Tuesday and Thursday from 2.15pm to 4.15pm. If these days and times are not convenient for you, please contact Sr Grace on 9622 9149 or 0420 754 733 or Email: [srgrace@stmichaelsparish.com](mailto:srgrace@stmichaelsparish.com) to schedule a more convenient time.

*If your child has not yet been baptised, please contact St Michael's Parish Office for more details.*

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## CONGRATULATIONS

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Congratulations go to Angelica Tabone in 6J who has been selected to receive a 2010 Highly Commended Award for Excellence in Student Achievement—Community Languages School for the study of Maltese. Angelica has been invited to attend the 2010 Minister's Awards Ceremony to be held in the Sir John Clancy Auditorium, University of New South Wales.

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## FROM THE LIBRARY

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### BOOK FAIR:

What a wonderful Fair. Lots of lovely books available. Smiling children crossing our Storybridge to enter. Just over \$4,000 worth of books sold. A truly great result! I hope you all enjoy reading your purchases. THANKYOU to all who bought books. The commission we earned helps keep our Library supplied with current resources for your children. Another BIG Thankyou to the Mums who helped out with sales - Mrs Pinto, Mrs Depares, Mrs Galea, Mrs Lin, and my colleagues Mrs Clark and Mrs Giblin - I really appreciate the time you so willingly give to help St Michaels. Our Library is looking especially lovely for Book Week, and this is due to displays of students' work and some absolutely beautiful posters painted by Mrs Mastrota and Miss O'Brien, and the themed display board created by Mrs Giblin. Of course the Storybridge created by Mr Earl was a real draw-card. The children get quite excited by the novel way to enter the Library. THANKYOU so much to all.

### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE:

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified to receive certificates from the Premier.

Mitchell Eckersley—1L      Emma Depares—1M  
Petar Barisic—2F      Rolan Gonzales—4S

The Challenge is nearly at an end for another year. Anyone still reading should complete the books needed by **Friday 27th** if possible, and let me know. As we get nearer closing time, the website gets very busy it can be hard to logon and I have to validate the records before 31<sup>st</sup> August. Over 200 students registered to read, but so far only 71 have finished. If the reason you have not entered the books you have finished is that you have lost passwords, please see me as soon as possible, so we can get your data entered.

Mrs Judy Buhagiar  
**TEACHER/LIBRARIAN**



### P & F NEWS

Father's Day stall will be held on the 1st September. A range of good quality gifts will be available for your children to buy their dads a great gift.

If you are able to volunteer your time on the day please let any of the P&F Committee know.

We thank you for your continued support with these events that help the school community grow. Any monies made on these events goes back into the community with funds going towards school resources including class readers and I.T. equipment.

A P&F General Meeting will be held on the 7th September in the schools library at 1.30pm. A CEO Representative will be attending to talk about Open Learning and flexible learning spaces.

Please see the P&F's blog, [smspandf.bloodspot.com](http://smspandf.bloodspot.com) regarding details on the meeting with Greg Whitby at Holy Spirit Primary on 1st September 2010.

**Skool Is Cool**, promotion organized by The Good Guys provides funds for schools. Whenever you purchase a product from Good Guys Prospect let them know you belong to St Michael's and 4% of your purchase price is given to the school as a gift voucher

Thanks

Paul Scott  
0416 250 591

### GREEN ZONE

#### Greening Australia: Planting Day

On Wednesday 21 July students from the Nano Cottage Kitchen Garden Program, St. Michael's Primary, Blacktown South, boarded a bus to travel to Greening Australia's Ropes Creek Nursery at Oxley Park.

This trip was the first part of a grant which the school won to re-vegetate the school environment with 200 local endemic species.

We looked in green houses and hot houses ending up in the potting shed where we were shown how to propagate small native grass seedlings. This was the favourite part of the day... all the students put their gloves on and got down and dirty!

After a barbeque lunch, which included a fresh salad, prepared by the students, the students helped set the table and clean up, by sorting waste into compost and recycling.

All the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and each brought back to school a propagated plant as well as a packet of seeds to take home. These plants and seeds will be put in the NCKG green house to mature before planting out at the school.

We look forward to our second session on Wednesday 25th August, when David, from Greening Australia, comes to school to help us plant the 200



native endemic plants and learn more about the environment and how we can 'Green Australia'

*Charlotte Gourlie: Year 3G*

*Sandra Russo: Year 3R*

*Clare Maloney: Itinerant Teacher – Communication*

\*These students benefit from a naturalistic approach to language which gives them opportunities to develop functional skills, therefore allowing them to negotiate their environment in ways which are satisfying and encouraging their independence.

### 2010—INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

Congratulations to the following students who achieved outstanding results in the **SPELLING** test:

**Year 3:**

Adriana Aganovic  
Majorie Laquian  
Emmanuel Ratnarajah  
Pinak Sharma

Hannah Harvey  
Joshua Lin  
Kassandra Schipp  
Briana Yu

**Year 4:**

Tina Aganovic  
Liann Aquino  
Zahrah Khan  
Shannia Raj  
Nadia Tong

James Antonios  
Jacinta Jarosz  
Nathaniel Perez  
Utkarsh Sharma

**Year 5:**

Heidy Soriano

Lauren Ward

**Year 6:**

Nima Bahramrad  
Mariam Omar  
Gabrielle Raymundo  
Jude Zaragoza

Rachel Depares  
Jason Pinto  
Mitchell Roseby

Congratulations to the following students who achieved outstanding results in the **WRITING** test:

**Year 3:**

Adriana Aganovic  
Annabel Darmali

Luke Attard  
Joshua Lin

**Year 4:**

Tina Aganovic  
Jacinta Jarosz  
Michelle Lin

Lianna Aquino  
Zahrah Khan  
Sargun Saddhar

**Year 5:**

Lauren Ward

**Year 6:**

Kathrine Lin  
Mitchell Roseby

Jason Pinto  
Angelica Tabone

### CANTEEN

**REMINDER** please use **PINK** price list. Any wrong price will be substituted with a different item.

Thank you,  
Jan Crawford  
**CANTEEN MANAGER**