



UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE

Wed 29th	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thurs 30th	Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day (Jamison Park)

JULY

Fri 1st	Whole School Assembly— Dance a thon Prize Giving - 2pm Term 2 Concludes
Mon 18th	School Resumes for Term 3—Staff and Students commence

Church of St Michael's
58 Orwell Street
Blacktown South

Weekend Masses:

Sunday: 8.00am, 9.30am, 6.00pm
4th Sunday 10.45am Filipino Mass

Weekday Masses:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 8.00am
Wed: 7.30pm

First Friday: 7.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wed: 7.00pm—7.25pm

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Wednesdays 6.30pm-7.30pm

Phone: 9622 9149

Website: mqofblacktown.org.au

St Michael's Primary School
155 Reservoir Road
Blacktown South 2148
Ph: 9622 9910
Fax: 9622 6902

Website:

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stmichaelsbktn@parra.catholic.edu.au

St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

2016 - ISSUE 10

28th June 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

“ If God is at the centre of your life, no words are necessary.

Your mere presence will touch hearts.”

St. Vincent De Paul.



As Semester 1 draws to an end I hope you have a clear understanding of the unique qualities your child brings to the ‘ moment of learning.’ We all learn in different ways, in different environments and at different speeds. In fact learning is a unique experience, simply because all who engage in learning are unique.

As adults we are charged with the great responsibility of making learning, *purposeful, relevant* and above all *enjoyable, challenging* and *supported*. As parents, your place as partners in the education of your children is supported by current research suggesting clear links with, ‘*positive parent interaction in student learning with promoting student success.*’

Term 2 has been another successful term in building our school as a strong faith filled learning community. This is supported by;

- Focus 160 training for all stage 3 teachers and school leaders. This professional training supporting stage 3 teachers in developing skills in literacy teaching.
- Student success at our Diocesan Cross Country event.
- Our parent run Mother’s Day Shop and Mother’s Day Liturgy.
- High levels of Professional Development for all teachers in, **Religious Education, Numeracy and Geography.**
- The finest Athletics Carnival ever held at St. Michael’s.
- P and F meetings supporting the school’s growth and development.
- Affirming parent, student and teacher responses in the **Quality Catholic**

School survey.

- A great **Dance-A-Thon**, sincere thanks for your support.
- Yr1 giving the greatest of performances at the CAPA night.
- Our Staff Development Day bringing St. Patrick's Primary School and St. Michaels together with Fr. Peter and the parish team celebrating 'Music and Liturgy.'
- A successful programme of 'assessment and reporting.'
- Fr. Luis our school chaplain celebrating grade masses.
- Stage.2 boys and girls participating in the Soccer Gala Day.
- Numeracy and Literacy parent workshops.

All of this achieved in just 10 weeks, is a healthy sign of a school community that is 'United in its core purpose,' to support the growth of the **whole child**.

We wish you every Blessing

To our friend and colleague Mrs. Sebelic we wish you and your family every blessing as the birth of your child draws near. We sincerely thank you for your gift as a teacher and leader, these gifts are a great and will be truly missed.



"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception."
St. Paul (Phil.19)



"Love One Another"

John Laffan
PRINCIPAL

From the Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

Dance-a-thon

We have had a very busy and exciting term at St Michael's. We want to thank and congratulate you for raising \$18,284.65 for our dance-a-thon. The money raised will go to reading resources and looking at ways to improve our infants playground.

On Friday at 2pm we will have our prize assembly where the top fundraiser in the school will win an iPad, the top fundraiser in each class will win a movie ticket and every \$5 raised children will get a ticket into the draw to win many other prizes.



Attendance

As the term ends it is a good opportunity to reflect on how many days your child has been absent so far. You would have seen this total on your child's school report.

Currently there are **70 children** who have a **80%-90% attendance rate** which means they have missed between 10-18 days off. We class this as an **emerging attendance problem**.

There are **10 children** who have a **70-80% attendance rate** which means they have missed between 19-26 days off. We class this as a **chronic attendance problem**.

There are **4 children** who have less than **70% attendance rate** which means they have had between 28-50 days off. We class this as a **complex attendance problem**.

Attendance at school is a **legal responsibility of parents** and it does impact on learning gains. Please ensure holidays are planned outside of school time and that children are at school all the time unless they are sick. If you are having trouble getting your child to school please contact their class teacher or myself and we can support you.



Holiday reading

The children have been making wonderful gains in their reading. It is important that the children continue to read in the holidays to maintain this growth. You could go to the local library to borrow books if you need some books for home.

Enjoy the holidays and stay safe!

Kind regards,

Katherine McKay

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



RE News

The first thing that is striking about next Sunday's gospel passage is the fact that there are 72 disciples whom Jesus sends out on mission. We can have an image of Jesus strolling around Galilee with just a small group of followers but this passage makes it clear that a significant number of people were engaged in his ministry. This sending out to mission is a significant element of the gospel of Luke.

Another theme that is significant in the gospel of Luke is the message of hospitality. Jesus teaches on it frequently and tries to convey a message that the hospitality of God is available to all. In the sending of the disciples, Jesus tells them to take nothing with them for the journey. He is telling them to rely on the hospitality of strangers. If they are welcomed and shown hospitality then they are to bless the household and carry out their ministry. The ability to show hospitality to the messengers of God is a sign that the household will welcome the message of God. However, wherever they do not receive hospitality they are to leave the town, shaking the dust from their feet, as their ministry will not be welcomed by people who are not ready to hear it. It is an excellent message about not wasting your efforts in unproductive ways – not hitting your head against a brick wall!

The gospel passage immediately follows the passage used last week that spelt out the difficulties of discipleship. Having explained how hard it is to be a disciple, Jesus sends his followers out to 'have a go' at being a disciple. When they come back successful he tells them not to be boastful or proud at their achievements but rather to be happy that their 'names are written in heaven'. In other words, anything they accomplished was because they were 'known' by God and that God was working through them. Disciples make themselves 'known' to God and God works through them to accomplish great things! How good would it be if we were all disciples with God working through us.

I hope everyone has a restful holiday.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be closed over the school holidays and will reopen on Wednesday the 20th of July from 8:15am to 11am.

Marion St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

From The Office

We have confirmation of Family member of a student in our school has been diagnosed with WHOOPING COUGH please be aware of the signs and symptoms of Whooping cough and see a Doctor if concerned

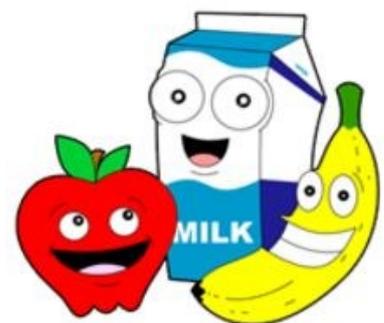
Canteen News

Cheese and bacon buns are \$1.45.

Over this term we have had a lot of children sent to the canteen by their teachers as they had no recess or lunch or both. Please check your children's bags for the bills

Have a happy and safe Holiday and we will see you in term 3

Thankyou for you support



P & F News

Thankyou

As the term draws to a close we must thank our wonderful teaching team for all of their hard work not only teaching our children, but caring and offering them support throughout the year. We also must thank Mr Laffan and Mrs McKay for their leadership of our school and for their constant support of our ventures. Yet most importantly we must thank our Administration team in the office who assist us with distributing our information to you all and taking many enquiries.

Fundraising:

Cake Stall

Are you good at making cakes and slices?? Have you got a secret family recipe that you wish to try?? Well, all going to plan we will be holding a cake stall at Bunnings Blacktown on Sunday 17th July (the last Sunday of the holidays). You can get together with the kids and bake up a stall. Confirmation will be made on our Facebook Page by the end of this week and we hope you can support our school!



Entertainment Books

Entertainment books are now available for purchase. Books are \$65 for Digital or Hard copy. **We only have 10 hard copy versions left on hand.** So get yours now!!! The school holidays are the perfect time to use these books, with vouchers for the movies, Featherdale, Taronga Zoo, Sydney Aquarium, museums and more!!!! If you would like to purchase a book you can order online or if you wish, you can send an envelope with the money or with credit card details to school addressed to St Michael's P&F and with your child's name and class. Once payment is received we can organise for your book to be distributed to you.

Drop Off Zone Volunteers:

We are putting yet another call out for volunteers to assist on all days, at the Reservoir Rd and Orwell Street Kiss and Drop. If you are able to assist us please email stmichaelspandf@gmail.com and leave your contact details. This will start first week back so please ensure you email us and we will contact you via email.

Spring Fair Meeting: The P&F team will be meeting this Wednesday 20th July at McDonald's Arndell Park, to continue the preparations for the Spring Fair. If you wish to help out and can attend on this night please come along at 6.30pm.

Please remember that the P&F cannot function without the support of the whole school community. If you wish to find out more about what happens at your child's school come along and join us at our meetings.

P&F Team

Sports

We can't believe we are half way through the year, with what has been a busy first half with sport. Thank you to all of the parents who have assisted in various ways this year so far, we need your support to have successful outcomes for all of our children. Some highlights so far have been the wonderful enthusiasm and energy the children showed in the cross country, the representation of St Michael's students in Parramatta Diocesan sport teams, girls winning the stage 3 touch gala day and our wonderful school athletics carnival for primary to name a few.

The sport calendar is a busy one, this week we have the Stage 2 boys' and girls' soccer teams off to a gala day this Thursday, we wish them good luck. The boys stage 3 soccer gala day has been re-scheduled for Thursday, week 1 of term 3.



Last week we had 4 representatives compete at the NSWCPSS cross country event at Eastern Creek:-

Natasha Martinez

Antoni Arshillo

Aiden Galea

Ayouk Mow



These 4 children did a superb job in trying their best on the day, unfortunately we didn't have any runner's progress to the next level. The children were very fortunate to get to experience what cross-country running is like at this level.

This coming Friday afternoon we will be presenting our age champions and runners-up from the athletics carnival, along with our field event results to the school, there were some very close results. The zone athletics carnival is in Term 3, week 5 next term children will receive notes for this. Full list of results will be published in next terms newsletter.

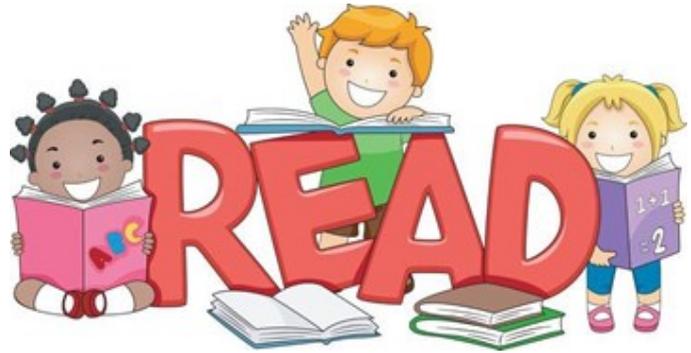
With the holidays fast approaching, we encourage you to keep your kids active in the holidays and look forward to the second half of the year in sport.

Cristy Budd/ Jeff Phillips

PE Teachers

Premier's Reading Challenge.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children who have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge.



Andrew Nogueiro KP	Aaron Nogueiro KP	Delinda Thompson KR
Alan Castelino KW	Thomas Wright KR	Jade Thompson KH
Joshua Moore KW	Eamon Jan Dizon 1S	Chelise Fernandez 1S
Isabella Palmer 1S	Lucas Valenzuela 1C	Keanu Freitag-Finau 1G
Peyton Regner 1S	Bianca Grima 1G	Christine Nogueiro 2C
Chloe Bax 2M	Amanda Borg 2L	Tanmay Gupta 2S
Caitlin Dixon 3S	Jorha-Lilly Wright 3S	Youanna Mekhail 3B
Jessica Moore 3B	Alexia Francis 3S	Emily Borg 5A
Samara Fong 5P	Maria Mekhail 5A	

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books
K-2	30	25	5
3-4	20	15	5
5-6	20	15	5

You will need to enter the books you read online. **Once you finish, please inform Miss Galea or Miss Rodriguez via a letter** and you will receive a certificate and a little treat.

Don't forget to borrow books so that you can continue reading over the holidays!!

Miss Rodriguez and Miss Galea

Catholic Care Social Services

Seminar – Understanding Family Law – Two Sessions

CCSS Solo Parent Services are holding two sessions for our Seminar on “Understanding Family Law”. The seminars on the following dates will cover the topics below:

Wednesday 20th July– Understanding the Family Law Act – Focus on Divorce/Separation and Children’s needs.

Wednesday 27th July – Understanding the Family Law Act – Focus on Property /Settlements.

Venue for both Seminars: DAC, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown **Time:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm **Cost:** \$7.00 per session. **Registration Essential:** Solo Parent Services - Rita - PH: 8822 2222 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

CCSS Solo Parent Services’ Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age whether you are a parent or not.

Next gathering: Tuesday 21st June. **Please note new Venue:** DAC, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Math Ideas for the Holidays!

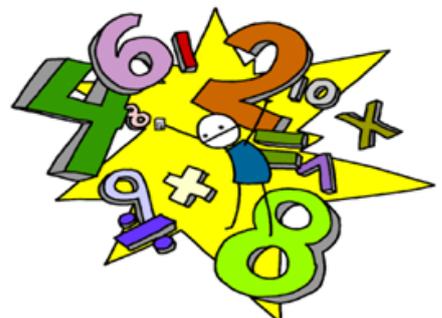


Here are a few ideas to help children continue to learn and practise maths in the holidays.

- Counting collections of objects such as pegs, rocks, pasta or toys.
- Cooking, following a recipe may involve weighing, measuring, ordering, estimating, adding and multiplying.
- Shopping involves many different calculations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and percentages.
- Card games!
- *Going to the movies? How much money will you need for tickets and snacks? How many people are going? Can you afford it?*
- *Planning a party? Who are you inviting? How many packets of plates, cutlery and serviettes will you need? Can you estimate how much food will you need? How much will it cost altogether?*
- *Going on a holiday or driving trip? Holidays or trips can involve time, distance, budgeting, speed and license plate games. How much will tickets or petrol cost? How much is accommodation per night? How much will it cost to do different activities? How much will your trip cost altogether?*

I hope you have a great holiday and notice lots of maths in your everyday activities. Maths is everywhere.

Jemelyn Rodriguez.





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- ☺ Open 50 weeks of the year. 8.00am to 4.00pm
- ☺ Caring and educating children from 2-6 years old.
- ☺ Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate are available, which is approved by Family Assistance Office, (13 61 50).
- ☺ Highly qualified educators, 4 currently studying their Bachelor of Education. All staff are Qualified.
- ☺ Outstanding School readiness Program, providing a high quality and affordable, developmental and educational child care services to our community.
- ☺ We operate with a strong focus on family values and we are designed to be a place where families can form friendships, gain support and advice from parenting experts.
- ☺ We encourage parents to participate in our programs, allowing them insight into their child's day to day activities.
- ☺ We aim to provide children in our care with a safe, happy, and healthy environment, which recognises the special needs and talents of individual children to ensure that all aspects of each child's developmental needs form the basis of our programs.
- ☺ Play activities planned by our educators allow children to naturally develop and have the opportunity to guide their own learning.

You are welcome to come and visit anytime to have a look at our centre, no appointment needed. Come in to see how we can work together to ensure your child is set up for achievement, see how we provide them with a head start to a positive and successful life.



THANK YOU to the wonderful sponsors of our DANCE-A-THON.
Please support these businesses if possible.



Mrs Jan Crawford—Canteen
Mrs Geny Cleary—Canteen



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Central Book Suppliers
NORTH GOSFORD

Lions League Winter Camp
 When: Monday, 4th July and Tuesday, 5th July 2016
 Time: 9am—3pm
 Venue: Patrician Brothers' College Blacktown
 Ages: U/6-U15 boys and girls

Special Guests: NRL stars! Previously we have had Matt Moylan, Corey Norman, William Hopoate, Blake Austin, Brad Takairangi, Tim Simona, Jayson Bukuya to name just a few!

Register at www.lionsleague.com.au
 or contact us at info@lionsleague.com.au
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/lionsleague15
 Instagram: [@lionsleague](https://www.instagram.com/lionsleague)



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