



UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH

Fri 17th	Mufti Day- Leukaemia Foundation Gold Coin donation
Tues 21st	HARMONY DAY
Thurs 23rd	P&F Mufti Day
Wed 29th	Parent Workshop 5:30pm P&F Meeting 6:30pm
Fri 31st	P&F Disco

Important:

Monday 24th April

School Staff

Development Day

Pupil Free Day

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:

www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

Email:

stmichaelsblkt@parra.catholic.edu.au

St Michael's Primary School

Blacktown South

NEWSLETTER

2017 - ISSUE 4

14th March 2017

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

This week's Gospel reading is the story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. This story holds a great message for all of us. The Samaritan woman was forced by her culture and community to visit the well in the heat of the day. This woman was an outcast not regarded as a fit person and so her life was lived on the margins.

In seeing the woman Jesus asked for her to share some water.

Immediately Jesus is inviting this woman 'in', he accepts and offers a great gift.



"Jesus said to the Samaritan woman,
whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again:
but anyone who drinks the water I shall give
will never be thirsty again:
the water I shall give will turn into a spring inside
welling up to **eternal life.**"

"Sir said the woman, '**Give me some of that water.**' John 4

In this season of Lent I invite all of us to consider;

Who in our lives do we need to 'invite in?'

Is there anything stopping us from accepting Christ's offer? Will we take a drink of His water?

As a Catholic School community we are gaining a reputation of '**inviting in**' many students with unique needs. We believe that through our **Diversity** we grow strong.

Last week we celebrated **Catholic Schools' Week**. It was great to see so many parents, grandparents and friends of our school participating in;

Open classrooms

Workshops

Class liturgies

Lenten prayer groups

All of these events supported the strength of our community as a rich environment for **life long learning**.

I encourage you to always feel a sense of welcome, We recognise that the success of our student's academic growth is dependant upon the **relationship between school and home.**

Love One Another,
John Laffan—**PRINCIPAL**



Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

Harmony Day

On Tuesday 21st we will be celebrating Harmony Day. This is an important day in our school community and the wider community that celebrates cultural diversity. It is a day of respect for all people who call Australia home. The message of Harmony Day is '**everyone belongs**', the Day aims to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster sense of belonging for everyone. I encourage you to talk with your children about the importance of respecting all people and how we all are important in making our community a better place.



Keep a look out for the orange note coming home with more details!

Communication

At St Michael's we have many forms of communication. It is important that you stay updated with all events and communication so you can be actively involved in the community.

Have you downloaded Skoolbag app to your phone?

Have you liked our school facebook page?

On our school website have you signed up to receive school newsletters via email?

It is important that if you would like to discuss your child that you make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher. You can write a letter to arrange an appointment or ring the office.

The Stage Coordinators are available to support the work of class teachers and parents for follow up meetings if required.

Kindergarten: Mrs Natasha Pullen (KP)

Years 1 & 2: Miss Deb Cox (2C)

Years 3 & 4: Mrs Maree Grainger

Years 5 & 6: Mrs Katherine McKay



Child Protection

It is important that if you wish to volunteer in any way (excursions, parent volunteers, kiss n drop, sporting days) your child protection registration is up to date. This needs to be renewed every 2 years. Please contact the office if you need support with this.

Have a great week!

Katherine McKay

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

RE News

In last Sunday's gospel we heard the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus. The message of this story is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're confused and scared by what they witness.

After that wonderful experience on the mountain Jesus and the apostles had to go back down and resume the journey to Jerusalem. After a peak experience, we too have to come down from the 'mountain' and return to the plain or valley, where life goes on in the darkness of faith. True religion does not encourage escape from life, but helps us to commit ourselves more deeply to it.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



During this Lenten season, like the disciples, we are called to consider who Jesus is and what role he plays in our lives

Anne Easton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Office News

SMS DAILY ABSENCES

We have now started using the Daily Absence SMS system. If your child is absent from school you will receive an SMS message in the morning. We ask that you reply to this SMS promptly stating very briefly why your child is absent from school eg. Mary is sick etc. —please also **do not** use any symbols (ie. smiley faces, \$ % & ()) in your text reply as it creates an error. The majority of SMS messages are sent to one of the parents only. Once you have replied to an SMS you do not need to send a note as this reply is uploaded into your child's attendance record.



PLEASE NOTE: If you are aware that your child is going to be absent for any length of time, could you please write a note to the teacher explaining absence. For leave over 10 days during the school term you will need to complete an "Application for Extended Leave (L) - Travel".

Uniform Shop

- Due to an increase in cost price from the Manufacturers, we have had to increasing the cost of:
- ** Bucket Hat to \$20
- ** Alice Hairbands to \$8
- ** Girls Winter Ties to \$15

The new yellow price list dated 1 March reflects these changes.

- Size 4 winter jackets are still out of stock and should be available soon – keep an eye out for an announcement in the newsletter!
- The updated price list is available to collect at the front office and student foyer.
- Change over to Winter Uniform will be after the School holidays and is worn in Terms 2 and 3. Uniforms are available to be purchased now however some sizes are still being processed.

From the Library

Chess

Each year St Michael's registers teams to play in the Primary Chess Teams Competition.



For this competition, teams are graded into Championship, Intermediate and Rookies divisions and travel to play matches against other schools throughout Term 2 and early Term 3. Players need to be committed to playing every week. These matches are held on Friday afternoons after school. The number of teams we can register will depend on parent support with driving. If there are not enough drivers available, we will not be able to register teams.

There will be a St Michael's Competition in Term 4 for players unable to play in the Friday matches.

If you are interested in your child taking part in this competition, please fill in the form below and return it to the Library by **this Friday, 17th March.**

Child's Name _____ Class _____

Parent's Name _____ Phone number _____

I can drive _____ children wearing seatbelts including my own child.

I can drive (please tick one)

Every week	Once a fortnight	Once a month	I am unable to assist with driving
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MindQuest

MindQuest is a weekend program for gifted or high achieving students.

This year it will be held at Glenwood High School on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st May. There are 36 exciting courses available including Science, Maths, Egyptology, Literature, Drama, Chemistry, Debating, Cartooning, Art, Animation, and more. Cost is \$195 for the two days.

If you would like an application form, or just want to find out more, please call in to the Library on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday before or after school.

Closing Date : Friday 7th April

Judy Buhagiar

TEACHER/LIBRARIAN



P&F



Parents & Friends Association

Facebook: St Michael's Blacktown South P&F **Email:** stmichaelspandf@gmail.com

Kristen Mobile: 0409 952 852

Leanne Mobile: 0413 546 062

Calendar of Events



School Disco – Friday 31st March, 2017

2017

March

23rd - Mufti Day for Easter Raffle

29th – P&F Meeting & Learning Seminars

31st - School Disco

April

7th - Easter Raffle Drawn & Easter Card prizes awarded

May

10th – Mother's Day Stall

24th – P&F Meeting

29th - PRC Free Seminar

Raising Resilient Children & Happy Families

Aug30th – Father's Day Stall

I hope you have all received the note for the Disco which is coming up. My daughter came home this week and told me that all the kids were super excited so we hope to see you all there.

We have started to receive notes and money, thank you. We have decided to wait until the week of the Disco to send home the wrist bands so please don't panic. Don't forget, on the form you can order ONE of Beef or Chicken Sausage OR Chips

Volunteers:

As you all know these events are only possible with the assistance of our Parent Helpers. If you're able to spare some time at the disco to help out we would be greatly appreciative. Just contact Kris or Leanne on the numbers at the top of the page I Thank you

P&F Meeting: Wednesday 29th March, 2017

5:30pm to 6:30pm: Learning Initiatives organised by John & Katherine

6:30pm to 7:30pm: P& F Meeting with Light Refreshments (children welcome)

Current items for the Agenda:

Canteen – Guest speaker, Greg from Munchies

Uniform

Feedback on this year's Parent Information Nights.

Mother's Day Stall

Please feel free to send through any other agenda items.



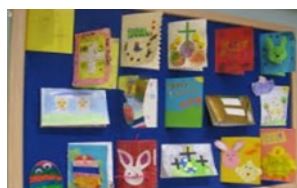
Easter is approaching so it's time to get creative and send us your best

Easter Cards...

I love this time of year when the kids are given the opportunity to put their creative hats on and design their own Easter card. Every year I am blown away by the effort they put in the cards they come up with which we then donate to St Hedwig's Village.

So please tell your kids to get cracking and start making, once they have finished they can simply drop into the P&F box in the Student Foyer in the Office.

There will be a prize awarded at the end of term assembly on the **7th April** to the best entry in each year and following on from this the cards will be donated to our dear friends at St Hedwig's Village.





Who are

Jackie Coleman

Tell us about your Children?

I have 2 children, a son Harrison who is in year 5 and a daughter Emily who is in year 2

Why did you want to be Vice President?

When Harrison started back in 2012 I became involved with the P&F team as a parent representative. For 2 years I was privileged to have been the president of the P&F. I enjoy being a part of the team therefore was willing to stay in the role of Vice President

What role are you playing when you're not performing your Vice President duties for the school?

My other role when I'm not being a mum is that of an Early Childhood Teacher working for Western Sydney University Early Learning in Quakers Hill. I have been working in child care for over 20 years and enjoy working with children and watching them grow and learn.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I love music, movies, cooking, singing (even though I'm not that good) and reading when I get the time. There isn't a lot of spare time amongst work, school and weekend sport!!

How would your best friends describe you?

An outgoing person who is shy at times. Always hardworking and willing to help out where I can. Someone they can rely on and trust.

PRC

Parents Representative Council - Web: <http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au/home>

School Representative: Michelle Williams

Canteen News

The new canteen is up and running, they offer an extensive menu with all of the students old favourites eg Hot dogs, Chicken Nuggets etc , As well as many new items such as sushi, fruit packs and Ham/Chicken salads.

Students can place orders at the canteen before school daily.

Or online the night before at by 6pm

WWW.MUNCHEXPRESS.COM.AU



Sports News!

Diocesan Cross Country

Official results will be published in next fortnight's newsletter. All student's who placed in the top 6 at the school cross country will represent St Michael's at the Diocesan Cross-Country at Eastern Creek on Tuesday 2nd May (Term 2, week 2). Permission notes will be sent home this Friday with those students. Please ensure they are returned before the end of term 1. NOTE: All children will travel by bus to this event.



Rugby League Gala Day Stage 3

All boys have now received their permission notes to attend this gala day, which outlines their training days, dates and requirements. If all notes along with code of conduct can be signed and returned ASAP please. Any questions in relation to this event please send a note to Mrs Budd or leave a message at the office.



Stage 3 Touch boys and girls

Rain, rain GO AWAY! We are hoping to finalise these teams this week and the successful students will receive permission notes by this Friday to attend this gala day. Which is to be held on Friday 7th April (week 11, last day of term 1) at the Kingsway in St Marys.



Lost Property

It is getting to that time of year where the sun is not shining as often, many children are starting to wear jackets to school. Quite often during PE students are removing jackets or hats, many of these items are not labelled. Please ensure ALL your child's items are labelled so they can be

returned to your child if taken off and left behind during PE lessons.



Hydration

We are constantly discussing the importance of hydration, even though it seems to be cooling down temperature wise, it is very IMPORTANT that your child brings a drink bottle filled with water to school each day.



Cristy Budd

Sports Coordinator



SPIRIT OF ANZAC
CENTENARY EXPERIENCE

A free travelling exhibition that tells the story of Australia's involvement in the First World War, featuring artefacts from the Australian War Memorial.

BOOK FREE TICKETS NOW AT
WWW.SPIRITOFANZAC.GOV.AU

We will be hosting free children's activities at the Experience from 17 - 21 April. Find out more and register your interest at www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/sydney/activities

International Convention Centre Sydney
15 - 27 APR 2017

PRESENTED BY: Australian Government, Australian War Memorial, Australian Football League, Australian Olympic Committee, Australian Paralympic Committee

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY: [Logos of supporting organizations]

FINAL TOUR DATES



Pro Evolution Football Academy
23 Chicago Ave, Blacktown NSW 2148
admin@proevolutionsports.com
0405459843/0413167986



Programs
Our coaching program is a weekly football program committed to the development of a player's individual technique and game tactics in a supportive and fun environment. Our coaching program is based on FFA curriculum and is tailored to the age and stage of the players (U5 - U15). We integrate whole-life coaching into the session.

Coach
Quality FFA trained coaches with years of experience coaching in Australia and overseas, and who have played the game themselves, some at semi-professional and professional levels.

Fee and Timetable
New members will be charged a one off membership fee of \$40.00. Your membership fee gives you a FREE PES football uniform and priority re-enrollment.

Tuesday
U5 - \$15/per session, 45min
U7 - \$20/per session, 60min
U9 - \$25/per session, 75min
U11 - \$30/per session, 90min

Friday
U13 - \$30/per session, 90min
U15 - \$30/per session, 90min



Visit www.proevolutionsports.com to register or for more information please contact admin@proevolutionsports.com or call us by 0405459843/0413167986



AUTUMN CAMP
April 10 and 11, 2017
Monday and Tuesday
U/6-15

Patrician Brothers Blacktown
9am-3pm

Register at www.lionsleague.com.au

"Lions League is more than a sporting academy. The team at Lions League whole heartedly believe in people's abilities no matter their level and have created a unique environment to nurture and inspire these dreams."