



2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

Parent Newsletter Term 2 Week 4 2022

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians whose land we educate our students.

DIARY DATES
Monday 16th May
• 9am Monday Assembly • NAPLAN Testing continues for Years 3 & 5
Tuesday 17th May
• Parent Newsletter published
Thursday 19th May
• School Photos catch-up day • Yr 3 excursion to Muru Mittigar Cultural Centre
Friday 20th May
• Last day for NAPLAN testing • Yr 5 & Yr 6 Chess tournament – away game • Yr 3 Mufti Day PBS4L reward
Sunday 22nd May
• Sixth Sunday of Easter
Monday 23rd May
• 9am Monday Assembly
Wednesday 25th May
• Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
Sunday 29th May
• The Ascension of the Lord
Monday 30th May
• Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey opens
Tuesday 31st May
• Parent Newsletter published
Sunday 5th June
• Pentecost Sunday
Friday 10th June
PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 13th June
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Friday 17th June
• Primary Athletics Carnival
Monday 20th June
• Semester One REPORTS emailed home
Tuesday 21st June
• Parent/Teacher Meetings begin • Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer Gala Day

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

Over the last week our Year 3 and Year 5 students have been participating in the 2022 NAPLAN. Congratulations to the students for their resilience during this time as they have undergone a battery of tests. Thank you to Miss Teulan who has coordinated the assessments and technology during this time. Thank you to the Year 3 and Year 5 class teachers - Mr Carroll, Mrs Bourne, Miss Haddad, Mrs Leckie, Miss Brooks, Mr Baird, Mr Xuereb, Mrs Lumanglas, Mrs Eagleton, Mrs Barbuto, Mrs Easton and our parents who have prepared and supported the children so well. Any students who missed a NAPLAN test will have the opportunity to catch up this week. Results of the tests will be shared with parents once the school receives them later this year.



Our Year 6 students had a wonderful time in Canberra on Thursday and Friday as they explored our National Capital. While there, they participated in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributes \$20.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution is being paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Thank you to our generous parents and friends that helped out at the Mother's Day stall. These wonderful people spent the whole day encouraging and supporting our children - Meghan de Vos, Marlene McCarthy, Nola Downie, Shruti Shetty, Lorata Jaber, Rebecca Yaghi, Anna Meoni, Angelina Agresta, Maria Koufos, Natalie Capeski, Shane Tabone, Wendy Lobley, Mehrulnisa Alam, Rachael Scicluna, Doris White, Elanor Gatt, Sandra Topajikian, Janelle Pickering. We are truly blessed!

Thank you also to over 350 mums, grandmothers, aunties and relatives that turned up for our Mother's Day liturgy, class visit and picnic. The sun was shining, the sky was blue and the atmosphere, humming. What a lovely morning to welcome our community back onto the school grounds.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful week. May God bless and keep you.

Mrs Sue Veling
Principal

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

St. Michael's is a Catholic community in which children, teachers and parents nurture a sense of personal worth as they work together in a safe, happy, challenging and faith-centred learning environment.

PUPIL FREE DAYS FOR 2022

Term 2 - Friday 10th June 2022 (Staff Training Emergency Care & CPR)

Term 3 - TBC (New English and Mathematics Syllabus professional learning)

Term 4 - Monday 19th December 2022 (Staff Formation)

Term 4 - Tuesday 20th December 2022

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

Upcoming FREE eSafety Webinars for Parents/Carers

At Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP) we see parents and carers as partners in your child's learning journey. In partnership with the eSafety Commissioner, CEDP would like to invite you to join free webinars for parents and carers focused on Parental Controls and Online Gaming.

<u>Parental Controls</u>	<u>Online Gaming</u>
<p>Available Sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 19 May 12.30 – 1.30 pm• Tuesday 31 May 12.30 – 1.30 pm <p>Find out how to set up devices and apps to help keep young people safe online. This webinar will include practical tips, demonstrations and advice - designed for parents and carers of kids aged 4 to 13 years old.</p> <p>It will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the benefits and limitations of parental controls• how to safely set up iOS and Android devices• how to safely set up popular games and apps, like YouTube and Roblox• family tech agreements and other parenting strategies to manage online risks• how eSafety can help you when things go wrong. <p>What you need to do</p> <p>Please register for the course on the secondary site via the following link. Please note this webinar is offered several times so you need to select the date and time that works best for you.</p> <p>- Thursday 19 May 12.30 – 1.30 pm - link to register - Tuesday 31 May 12.30 – 1.30 pm - link to register</p>	<p>Available sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 9 June 12.30 - 1.30 pm• Friday 17 June 12.30 – 1.30 pm• Tuesday 21 June 7.30 – 8.30 pm <p>This webinar will help kids stay safe by learning about the benefits and risks of online gaming. This webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 8 to 13 years of age.</p> <p>It will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the games young people are using and how they are engaging with them• the benefits of gaming and how to mitigate the risks• practical strategies to use at home and where to find help and support if things go wrong. <p>What you need to do</p> <p>Please register for the course on the secondary site via the following link. Please note this webinar is offered several times so you need to select the date and time that works best for you.</p> <p>- Thursday 9 June 12.30 - 1.30 pm - link to register - Friday 17 June 12.30 – 1.30 pm - link to register - Tuesday 21 June 7.30 – 8.30 pm - link to register</p>

If you have any further enquiries please email safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au.

2022 NAIDOC Week Competitions

This year, as part of the NAIDOC School Initiatives, there is a *Colouring-In Competition* open to all students in Years K-2 and a *Poetry Writing Competition* open to all students in Years 3-6. These were handed out to students earlier in the term. It is great to see the number of entries that have come in so far. Please ensure your child has their name clearly written on the entry sheet. Entries are due to the office by **Friday 17 June 2022**.



SPORTS UNIFORM

Parents and carers are reminded that the school sports shoe is a **white jogger** with **white shoe laces**, worn with **white socks**. Thank you for ensuring that your child wears the school uniform with pride and in accordance with the school uniform policy.

Please ensure your children have a labelled school hat and a drink bottle filled with water every day to school.

Miss Rebecca Teulan
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2022



The sacramental program dates and online registration forms for 2022 are available on our parish website <https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/>

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS REGISTRATION CLOSURE DATES:

Reconciliation process for Year 3 - 6: **18th September 2022**.

First Eucharist Process: **2nd May 2022**.

Confirmation Process: **26th June 2022**.

High School Process: **3rd April 2022**.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our sacramental coordinator on the details below:

Gerald "Ged" Oblea

Sacramental Coordinator –

Mary Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown.

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Ph: 02 9622 1125 – option 4 Mobile: 0422 724 008



RETURN of PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please return your Project Compassion boxes to School as soon as possible. If you require a receipt for taxation purposes, please ensure that the flap on the top of the box is completed correctly. We can not receipt any money without those details.



A NANO MOMENT



Love One Another

Mrs Anne Easton

Religious Education Coordinator



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A LEARNING AWARD IN TERM 2 WEEKS 2 & 3.

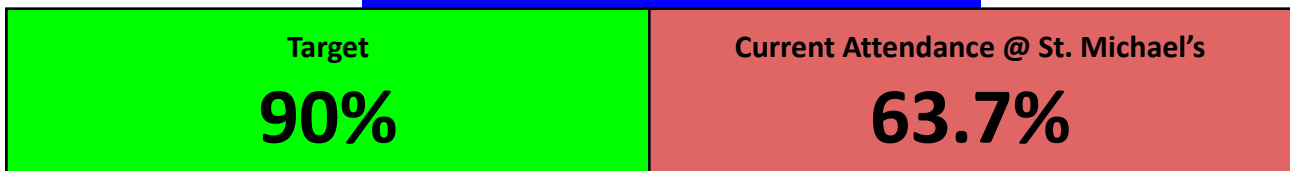
Kindergarten – Asli Simon, George Layous, Anthony Salama, Rabani Dhanju, Satmann Singh, Kanav Klair, Aadir Trivedi, Gurman Sran, Lawand Alou, Darren Pinto, Zoe Volvozidis, Jacob Yaghi, Kiyan Darji, Emma Davies, Geordan Arias, Armaan Singh.

Year 1 & Year 2 – Kanisha Shetty, Alek Mayen, Sanvi Parashar, Zachariah Ghimire, Tobias Craig-Williams, Erica Aquilina, Aleya Jordan, Kaden Jaber, Grace Mow, George-Elias Topajikian, Zavion Clews, Sarkis Yaghi, Rishi Parikh, Lynn Jbara, Ievan Reddy, Darsh Patel, Zoya Ali, Zeeshan Sidhu, Tantriya Ajai Raj, Cindro Aquino, Skye Tannous, Amelia Latimore, Sarina Gulati, Reanne D’Mello, Jeev Singh, Adam Hadiwidjaja, Lincoln Polley, Eliyah Todd, Mason Grima, Bruce Hayton, Yagyata Arora, Aliet Acuoth, Panav Oberoi, Venice Oscing.

Year 3 & Year 4 – Bradley D’Cruz, Olivia Estapa, Chana Leota, Gurnur Kaur, Michael Bangug, Ryan Verma, Ciara Wong, Elihdan Arias, Lily Nilon, Noah Elomina, Paramveer Singh, Samantha Ridout, Nhyira Acheampong, Nixie Patel, Rishit Singh, Shanaya Christian, Sebastian Meli, Annalise Kelly, Ivnaaj Kaur, Riona Lal, Angelina Abrahams, Thomas Krumins, Abigail Opoku, Daniel Jemison, Arya Trivedi, Arok Michael, Shaniah Rana, Riley Sant, Narayani Goswami, Marko Bukovic.

Year 5 & Year 6 – Florence Muyu, Bronte Said, Bentley Haeren-Vaz, Serenity White, Alexander Koufos, Nyajo Kor, Tin Le, Joyce Elmna, Alex Moggridge, Shannon Sharma, Nathan Saws, Angela Michael, Anthony ElRassi, Annabelle Yaghi, Gianna Tabone, Nicholas Serra, Pooja Krishna, Lisa Lubajo, Juris Francisco, Eesha Lal, Riyaan Shah, Gian Evangelista, Fahmi Anglo, Arnav Dube, Isaac Knight, Acuoth Acuoth, Saleem Asfour, Lauren Renouf, Rihanna AbuGanaba, Anna Belle Taktak, Olivia Cousens, Samara Fong.

ST. MICHAEL’S STUDENT ATTENDANCE 2020
—EVERY LEARNER-EVERY DAY—



At St. Michael’s, we continue to promote student attendance. Thank you to our parents for the support and value that you place on your child being at school each day. Regular school attendance plays a **critical role** in ensuring that every student has access to the same learning opportunities. When students are not at school, are late to school or leave school early, they are missing out on so much that can impact on their future learning.

School	School Attendance Level
*St Michaels Primary School Blacktown South	63.7%

Our target is for at least 90% attendance every day. To date, attendance for each grade has been well below our target.

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level
K	72.3%
1	67.2%
2	56.6%
3	59.8%
4	63.7%
5	61.2%
6	66.1%

The following **Attendance Guidelines** are based on current legislative requirements, research on attendance and best practice.

- ✓ Attendance affects a child’s academic achievement and their overall wellbeing.
- ✓ There is NO safe threshold of absence – **everyday counts.**

✓ School attendance patterns are established early in a child’s schooling – research shows Year 1 attendance is a predictor of future attendance patterns.

- ✓ The effects of school absenteeism accumulate over time and affect children’s development now and into the future.
- ✓ Daily punctuality is important. The early part of each day is critical. Important learning is scheduled during this time when children are rested and receptive. Key concepts are built up in the time.
- ✓ Sporadic absences can affect academic achievement as much as absences over consecutive days.
- ✓ We **ALL** need to work together with our children’s best interest in mind to ensure that students are at school every day that they are well enough to attend – they only get one go at this part of their education and **everyday counts**.

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

If you would like to purchase any of our pre-loved uniforms, please go to the office and you will be taken to the shop by our staff.

TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEY (TTFM) 2022

In the coming weeks we will be inviting our students in Years 5 & 6, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school, using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

From **Monday, 30 May to Friday, 1 July**, we invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community, we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at *St. Michael’s*. The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

COVID SAFE PROTOCOLS

All students, families and staff are requested to follow NSW Health’s advice to reduce the risk of not only transmitting COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect schools this winter such as the flu. Therefore we ask that students, staff and family members who visit the school

Parents are required to:

- inform the school if their child tests COVID positive and keep the child at home in isolation for the required 7 days.
- inform the school if their child is a close household contact, administer a RAT daily before the child attends school and keep the child home if they are unwell or symptomatic

Thank you for all that you do to support the health of students and staff.

FACEBOOK PAGE SM Parents and Carers

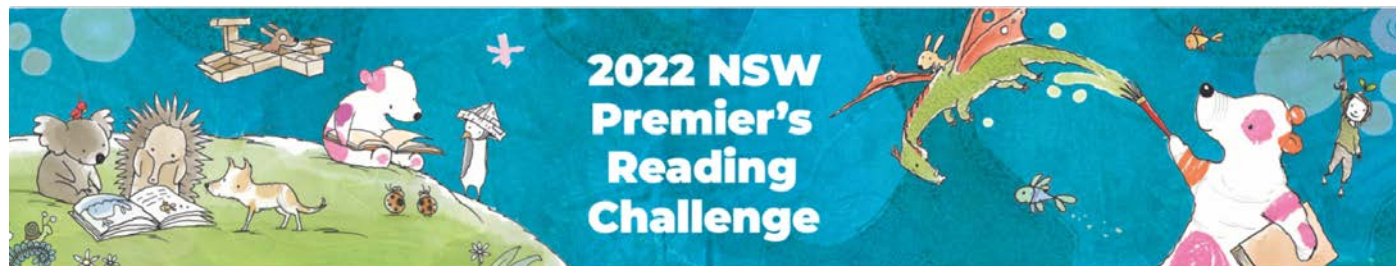
*In addition to St. Michael’s official Facebook page where we celebrate our students, we also have a Facebook page for parents and carers, called **SM parents and carers**.*

The purpose of the page is to bring the school community together, where reminders are posted, school related questions can be asked and uniforms donated or sold. Please feel free to join the page which is moderated by school mums.

For more information or if you have any questions, please direct them to Mrs Natalie Capeski.

FROM THE LIBRARY

Premier's Reading Challenge 2022

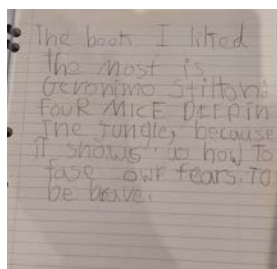


The following children have finished reading the required number of books for the PRC.

Year 1 : Evie Barrs, Andrew Jbara, Panav Oberoi

Year 6 : Christian Barrs

Please keep in mind that the PRC is not a race to be finished but a challenge where children can be encouraged to read books that they would not usually pick up. I would love for your children to speak with you and let you know how they will challenge themselves this year. When your children finish the challenge please email me at stmichaelsblktnlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au.



Andrew Jbara challenged himself by reading books from the 3-4 and 5-6 reading lists. He shares his thoughts about his favourite book from his reading for the PRC.

"The book I liked the most is Geronimo Stilton: four mice deep in the jungle, because it shows us how to face our fears. To be brave."

Thank you to his mum for sharing this information and his note with us.

Book Club

Thank you to everyone who has placed their orders via Loop or has sent in their orders to school. I will be finalising the orders today. All orders will be collated at Scholastic and sent to school. Once they arrive at school, the books will be sent to your child's classroom.

Street Library

This cute little Street Library belongs to one of our school families. You can find the library at 28 Craig St, Blacktown. The family wants to share their love of books and reading with the community. Books in a Street Library are free to take to read and you can return it there when you have finished. You could also put in one of your own books as a swap if you like.

*Address shared with permission of the family.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please contact me via email stmichaelsblktnlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au

Happy Reading

Mrs Pinto

Librarian



ST. MICHAEL'S SPORTS NEWS

Parramatta Diocese Cross Country 2022

On Tuesday 3rd May, 48 of our students represented our school at the Parramatta Diocese Cross Country, held at Eastern Creek Motorpark. Our students represented St Michael's proudly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout the day.

Congratulations to the following students who have made the top 8 places in their event and will be representing the Parramatta Diocese at the NSWCCCCPS Cross Country on Tuesday 7th June at Sydney Motor Sports Park:

U11 Boys: Elijah Koopu – 1st

U12 Boys: Heath Warren – 7th

U10 Boys: Dylan Babela – 8th

If any students who competed on the day do not know their result, please come and see Mrs Ireton or visit the CEDP Primary Sport Facebook page. Students will be receiving their number and certificate of participation for their fantastic efforts on the day in the next week.





Mackillop Football (Soccer) Trials

On 27th May, Bryson Debono and Mila Stribl will be heading off to Goulburn to participate in a trial for the Mackillop Football Team. It is an amazing feat to have made it to these trials and both of these students have worked hard to make it to this point and should be proud of this accomplishment. St. Michael's wishes both students all the best and their respective trials and we look forward to hearing how they have performed.

Child Protection Volunteer Module

Throughout the school year, St. Michael's Primary School participates in a number of sporting events that often require parents to volunteer and support our school. It is a requirement for these volunteers to complete a Child Protection module which stays current for two years upon completion.

We are always looking to see who is able to volunteer at our events, including carnivals and gala days. If you are interested in volunteering, please complete the module located at the following website:

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/about/student-safety/volunteer-and-contractor-training>

The module takes approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Yours in Sport,
Mrs Amanda Ireton
Sports Coordinator

Year 6's Overnight Excursion to Canberra

Written by Madison Rendon and Meghana Yarlagadda

On the 12th May 2022, Year 6 arrived at Canberra, departing from St. Michael's grounds at 7am. Our first destination was the Old Parliament House. We learnt how to vote by taking part in our own mock election, where we voted for our favourite fruit (apple won).

Our second destination was Questacon. This is an interactive Science museum with a thousand different rooms, filled with lots of activities which encircle Science, Technology and Art. We played table hockey against a robot (and won) and finished our visit to Questacon with a quick souvenir shopping spree, getting our hands on anything our money could afford.

As the day was coming to an end, we arrived at AIS (Australian Institute of Sport), where we learned all different skills associated with Basketball, Soccer, Wheelchair Track and Field (virtual), Rock climbing, Cycling (virtual) and Rowing.

We arrived at the motel at 9pm. Many of us were exhausted but quite excited too. We had a wonderful dinner with amazing 4.5 star food, then we headed towards our dorms where we slept the night away...thinking about our fun filled day– the one that's passed and the one ahead of us.

After a wonderful breakfast we visited the old House Of Representatives. We were amazed by the enormous speakers chair and the size of the room. We learned many things about Australia's history and democracy.

We arrived at the Australian War memorial and we learned an abundance of information about the courageous war veterans who sacrificed their lives for our nation. It was truly inspiring and we learnt a lot about Australia's involvement in conflict.

After our reverent visit to the War memorial, we visited the current Parliament House where we learned extended information about Australia's history. We role-played as if we were ministers in the House of Representatives. We learned how a bill would be passed onto the Senate.

We finished the day with some delicious Maccas. We departed for our three hour journey back home, with many memories made and much knowledge gained.



POSITIONS VACANT



JUMPSTART 4 KIDS

LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

94 Harold Street Blacktown

ABN 83 121 421 903

PHONE 9671 5411

FAX 9671 5422

Room Support Staff required to assist trained Early Childhood Educators.

JumpStart 4 Kids Blacktown is a 40 place Long Day Care Centre recently rated Exceeding against the National Quality Standards. Currently we have 2 learning support positions in our 2-3yrs and 3-5yrs rooms environments for 5 days per week between the hours of 9:30 -2:30 pm. (*school holidays negotiable*)

This position would ideally suit applicants who have a passion for assisting young children to develop their individual potential. The capacity for taking responsibility and showing initiative in a team environment that is committed to fostering the development of each child through play- based experiences is essential.

Responsibilities include -

- Collaborating with educators as part of a team to deliver play based educational programs
- Providing support with children's personal care & meal assistance
- Assistance with the coordination, planning, and implementation of children's routines
- Supporting the participation of children in activities throughout the day
- Providing positive reinforcement, behavioural support and a safe learning atmosphere
- Communicating with educators in the delivery of play-based programs and assisting in recording feedback and follow up experiences
- Preparing and maintaining the room environment by ensuring that the areas are clean, safe and tidy
- Following directions and guidelines outlined by educators
- Demonstrating accountability for performance of allocated tasks & seeking feedback from educators

Application Requirements

- Valid Working with Children's Check
- Current CV outlining relevant experience to the role including the names of two referees

Application to be forwarded to the Directors - Maree Ley
JumpStart 4 Kids
94 Harold Street Blacktown 2148
Email: Kids@jumpstarteducation.com.au

Applications close: Friday 3rd June 2022