

ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

155 Reservoir Road, Blacktown South NSW 2148 Phone: 8869 6200

www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au stmichaelsblktn@parra.catholic.edu.au facebook.com/StMichaelsBlacktownSouth

2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

DIARY DATES

Monday 8th August

 Feast of Mary MacKillop liturgy
 Friday 12th August

2pm Whole School Assembly
 Monday 15th August

• Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary liturgy Wednesday 17th August

• 8am ICAS English test Years 3-6 Thursday 18th August

• 10am-12 Year 6 Voice of Youth Cluster Final @ St Bernadettes Monday 22nd August

 Book Character Parade – ALL WELCOME

Wednesday 24th August

Netball Gala Day

Thursday 25th August

Book Fair: 25th-31st August

 Kindergarten Excursion to Featherdale

Friday 26th August

 Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival

Tuesday 30th August

 8am ICAS Mathematics test Years 3-6

Thursday 1st September
 Father's Day Stall

Friday 2nd September
7am Father's Day BBQ Breakfast and Prayer – ALL

WELCOME

Monday 5th September • Book Week Performance Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2

Monday 12th September

• Yr 6 Incursion - Planetarium Friday 23rd September

 Last day Term 3 Monday 10th October

Pupil Free Day
 Tuesday 11th October

 Students return for Term 4 Thursday 13th October

9:30am St Michael's Day Mass - celebrating 60 years
ALL WELCOME

Parent Newsletter Term 3 Week 4 2022

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

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

Over the past month all St Michael's staff have completed mandatory online training modules which focussed on Safeguarding. While completing this work, I am reminded of just how important online safety is for all technology users - child, teenager or adult alike.



As adults we know that whatever we post online remains there as a digital footprint, even if we remove a post or photo from our social network streams.

We as adults also know how dangerous it is to give away personal information to businesses or sites we may subscribe to online. Afterall, we hear about scams everyday!

Educating our children in how to use technology safely is the responsibility of ALL of us! Parents and schools need to work in partnership to ensure our children always remain safe and respectful, especially when online.

A site with outstanding resources for parents, schools, and the children themselves is <u>https://www.esafety.gov.gu/</u> This site is produced by the Commonwealth Government and has resources that can be downloaded, webinars to join and even cartoon picture ebooks for our younger children to view.

An upcoming online webinar for parents of young people aged 8-13 years is: Learning about TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube. It will be held on Tuesday 16th August 7:30-8:30pm or Thursday 25th August 12:30-1:30pm. This link will take you directly to the registration page if you are interested. <u>https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/5639946412689525773</u>. I highly recommend that all families take the time to explore the eSafety website.

We look forward to welcoming our community to our biennial Book Character parade on Monday 22nd August. We also have our Father's Day Breakfast on Friday 2nd September and then our 60th Anniversary Mass and celebration on Thursday 13th October. We have also been able to secure Andrew Chinn for our Christmas Concert on Friday 9th December. Please place these dates in your diary. More information about these events will follow.

The date for our 2023 Kindergarten Parent Information evening will be on Wednesday 26th October 6-7:30pm. An email with all the dates including orientation and starting dates for 2023 will be sent to all prospective parents soon.

May God bless and keep you.

Alleling

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 4 - Monday 10th October 2022 (Introduction to New English and Mathematics Syllabus) Term 4 - Monday 19th December 2022 (Staff Formation day)

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

Science Week

National Science Week is held between 13th -21st August. To celebrate this event, each grade will be involved in the following virtual events:

- Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two- Liquid Nitrogen Show on Monday 15 August at 2pm
- Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5- Ocean Plastics on Wednesday 11 August at 10am
- Year 6- Scifest Virtual Trivia on Friday 19th Aug at 1:00pm

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Entries for Years 3-6 students for ICAS have now closed. **If you registered and paid** for your child to complete either or both of the ICAS Assessments, please make note of the time and dates below:

- ICAS English- 8am Wednesday 17th August 2022
- ICAS Mathematics- 8am Tuesday 30th August 2022

Both assessments will take place before school in the School Library at <u>8am</u>. It is important that all students participating in the assessments arrive at school by this time.

Talk Moves

As a staff, we have been undertaking professional learning focused on different strategies teachers can use during the Numeracy block to assist and encourage students to use the stage-based targeted mathematics language. One strategy is the use of *Talk Moves*.

What are Talk Moves?

- Talk moves are tools used by teachers to support rich, meaningful classroom discussion in mathematics.
- Talk moves provide students with opportunities to express their mathematical thinking and problem solving strategies during classroom discussions.
- Talk moves encourage students to contribute and listen to each other, engage in math content and dig deeper into their own reasoning.
- Each talk move is used by the teacher to encourage a particular response from students at different times in the mathematical discussion.

Miss Rebecca Teulan Assistant Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please keep the following children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Sophie Ackroyd Patrick Agon Georgia Allen Dominic Azar Noah Bajada Christian Barrs Jasmine Bowden Rhys Cash Xayne Casipit Sienna Cataldo Levi Cumbo Claire de Vos Bryson Debono Callum Dixon Arielle Farrow Alexander Thuaux Preston Young

Jessica Fernando Juris Francisco Harper Gillett Mackenzie Kelly Kevin Labayane Matthew Lemura Elyssa Meli Alexander Moggridge Aaron Nogueiro Andrew Nogueiro Louise Obra Bronte Said Cianna Simic Oliver Smith Mila Stribl Jade Thompson



Feast of St Mary MacKillop



On Monday we celebrated Mary MacKillop's Feast Day. St. Mary of the Cross is the first Australian saint, and her influence in the country has spread far and wide. She is recognised for her commitment to the poor, helping those who needed it the most in any way she could. She was the founder of the Sisters of St Joseph and a tireless advocate of education and schools. At just 24, she established a school for children of the poor and underprivileged and under her guidance, her Order went on to found schools not only

across SA but also in Victoria, NSW and eventually New Zealand.

St Mary and her Sisters were also responsible for setting up orphanages and homes for the destitute as well as establishing refuges for ex-inmates of Australia's grim nineteenth century prisons. She also set up shelters for former prostitutes earning criticism and outrage from many people. In a conservative time as well as a male dominated Church, St Mary's unwavering commitment to those on the margins of society constantly met with opposition. But with her strength of faith and her vision of a better world for all, St Mary refused to be daunted.

With patience, a forgiving heart and trust in God, she managed to overcome whatever obstacles were put her way. We strive to be like her in our daily lives.

The Feast of the Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of the most important feast days of the year and is a Holy Day of Obligation. This year, the Feast of the Assumption occurs on **Monday, August 15, 2022**. On this Feast, we traditionally celebrate Mary going to heaven. The tradition is that 'God took Mary, body and soul, to heaven after her life on earth had come to an end'.



Mr Scott Carroll Acting Religious Education Coordinator



Change to Whole School Assembly

Our whole school assembly will now take place fortnightly on Friday afternoon from 2pm. Our next afternoon assembly will be this **Friday 12th August**. At the assembly we will celebrate the children who received learning awards. Please come and join us.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A LEARNING AWARD IN TERM 3 WEEKS 1 & 2.

Kindergarten – Reve Clews, Lawand Alou, Alicia Rajalingham, Ellie Huang, Jaibir Singh, Monique Briggs, Jordan O'Rourke, George Aboumelhem, Aaryan Sharma, Joshua D'Cruz, Lucas Thompson, Irene Rofiel, George Dib, Alicia Hillsley, Chantelle Bachak, Shamish Sharma.

Year 1 & Year 2 – Dhamya Gupta, Daniella Refalo, Olivia Charlwood, Vanessa Sanchez, Prince Rauniyar, Cameron Dela Cruz, Davina O'Regan, Mary Zaragoza, Aleya Jordan, Tobias Craig-Williams, Kaya Derrick, Antonia Agresta, Isaiah Antipas, Tanay Sanan, Awell Kur, Lisa Chirchir, Megan Muhia, Riya Parikh, Grace Fenech, Alannah Boland, Aisha Regmi, Ariana Vassallo, Jiyaan. Trivedi, Liam Thuaux, Yagyata Arora, Gabriella Rajalingham, Samuel Abdelmalik, Brigitte Alphonse.

Year 3 & Year 4 – Chahna Patel, Kayden Luna, Ethan Davies, Kiaan Arora, Lorena Garcia, Elias Marquez, Lucas Vu, Francis Wassef, Levi Wilson, Harry Bajada, Marcus Babela, Lorian Aquilina, Jordan Andrews, Christos Dionysopoulos, Georgia Minas, Vansh Darji,Jaxzon Stevenson, Maria DeDios, Sam Kome, Hirva Prajapati, Zarrin Khan, Alivyah Geda, Dante Janezic, Breanna Jaber, Madeleine Chakti, Aavni Nand, Kaiden Halagao, Ashreen Kaur, Anastasia Grills, Laurena Stribl, Gianluca Novella, Narayani Goswami.

.<u>Year 5 & Year 6</u> – Elijah Dagher, Shimmer Ghodke, Adhieu Michael, Karlo Mangala, Jasmine Bowden, Saad Chaudary, Eshaan Dave, Jaiden Michalski, Shristy Singh, Harper Gillett, Elijah Koopu, Maria Salhab, Elaia Minas, Madison Charlwood, Enola Arima, Lawrence Lotigo, Victoria Dela Cruz, Alan Castelino, Aaron Nogueiro, Isabella Zamora Yong, Jasmin Kassab, Joshua Moore, Aastha Patel, Lucas Gock, Madison Rendon, Moses Neil, Joseph Perry, Hita Vaidya, Gracia Leke, Prince Reec, Mackenzie Kelly, Abram Shenouda, Sri Ram Tati.

Reading Recovery Certificates – Aveline Saccasan, Kavia Kumaran

2022 School Fees

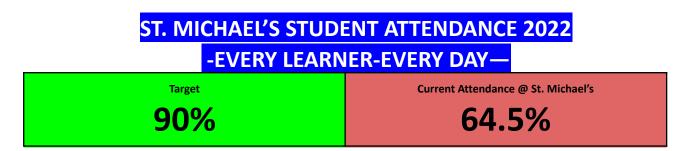
Term 3 School Fee accounts were sent home to all families last week from the Catholic Education Office. All fees and charges are due and payable 30 days from the date of the School Tax Invoice/Statement unless a payment arrangement is agreed to by the school in writing prior to the Current Term Fees - Due date, Wednesday, 24th August, 2022. One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment.

Fees can be made by EFTPOS, BPOINT, BPAY or POSTBILLPAY- (NO CASH OR CHEQUES). If you take advantage of the BPAY facility to pay your school fees, you will need your biller code and reference code which are located on the bottom right hand side of your school fee account. Please allow 2 days for all BPoint, BPay and POSTBILLPAY payments to reach our account.

Should you wish to make other arrangements for the payment of your 2022 school fees please contact Mrs Kim Antonelli.

Withdrawal of a Student

A full terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before a parent/carer terminates the student's enrolment. If sufficient notice of termination of the student's enrolment is not given, the Parent/Carer is to pay the School one term's school fees including any Diocesan Fees applicable. This amount reflects the School's financial loss associated with the student's withdrawal without sufficient notice of termination. **One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment.**



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	64.5%	
Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level	
К	• 69.0%	
1	68.5%	
2	• 52.7%	
3	60.7%	
4	67.8%	
5	e 66.7%	
6	6 7.5%	

Our target is for at least 90% attendance every day. To date, attendance for each grade is <u>well below our target</u>. However, across the Diocese this is the same trend due to the effects of COVID-19 and Influenza.

Our trend is improving and I wish to congratulate all students who have an attendance rate of at least 90%.

At the end of Term 3, students will be recognised with a special certificate that reflects their attendance in Term 3.



Families at St Michael's continue to experience COVID cases, so it is important for you to monitor your children for symptoms and keep them at home if they are unwell. We will also contact you if your child feels unwell at school.

As it is flu season, please be vigilant about the early signs of influenza which also requires you to keep your children at home to ensure that we continue to maintain a healthy environment for the children and staff while at school. Thank you for following these 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 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 .



Helpers Required

Helpers are required for the Father's Day stall to be held on Thursday 1st September from 9am.

Please contact Megan de Vos on 0499 220 408 if you are available. Your help is much appreciated.

CHESS WINNERS

The mighty St Michael's chess team won their regional heat. Students in Years 5 & Year 6 played extremely well and we are so proud of them. St. Michael's came first overall and even got a shiny trophy to display at school. Of our 8 players, 5 ended up individual award winners.

They now qualified for the semi finals on 25th August in Baulkham Hills where the students will compete against 11 schools and 60 students. We take our top 5 players through as the St Michael's team. Many thanks to Mr Luckman and Mrs Carrington for coaching and encouraging our teams.



YEAR 6 NEWS - ST. MICHAELYMPICS

This week, to celebrate all the learning they have been doing in Mathematics, students in Year 6 participated in a St Michaelympics. Over 2 hours, they competed across 7 events focused on showcasing both their natural athletic ability, and the newfound measuring skills they have been developing in our unit on Length and Area. Students launched Cotton Ball Shot-puts and Paper Straw Javelins; flicked the Paper Plate Discuss and navigated the How Many Metre Hurdles; before flying to some impressive heights in the High School Jump. A big thank you to all the students for getting

involved and having a go to make the day winner and to Mr Luckman for his creativity in organising a wonderful event.



Kindergarten News

Kindergarten have had a busy start to Term 3. They have been learning about what we need to make bread and even celebrated 101 days of Kindergarten! Check out all of the fun they have been having!















YEAR 1 NEWS - Writing





Year One has been learning to give and write instructions! They enjoyed making Fairy Bread and Funny Face Biscuits!

Nadan, Leela, Alek and Vanessa from 1 Green enjoyed making their Funny Face biscuits because it was yummy to eat! Reyan, Amaanat and Amalia from 1 Red had fun listening to the instructions and making their biscuits! 1 Yellow loved working together when spreading the icing.



FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Week : Week 6, 20 - 26 August



The teachers and I have been reading some of the shortlisted books to the students when they come into the library. Please do ask your children which books they liked and why.

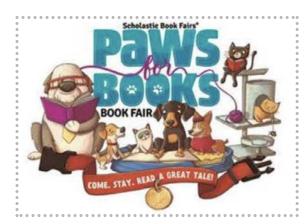
We have had some wonderful conversations with 'What do you call your grandma?', 'When the waterhole dries up', and 'Stellaphant'.

You can find out more information about all the shortlisted books at the CBCA website.



Come and Join Us for our Book Character Dress Up Parade: Monday 22 August 9:30-11am

We are really looking forward to seeing the children in their costumes at the dress-up parade. I have been given 'orders' for my costume by some children and will begin creating it this weekend. I have told all the children to use their imaginations and create their own costumes. This can be as simple as a pair of white underwear over all black clothes and a red cape to be like Captain Underpants or brown wrapping paper (or lots of sandwich bags glued/taped together) to make a 'dress' to be the Paperbag Princess. Children can dress up to reflect their dream job, dream holiday, a person they admire (I think there will be an 'Ash Barty' at the parade 🗳) or their dream for the world/community.



Book Fair : Thursday 25 August to Wednesday 31 August

I am pleased to say that we will be able to welcome you to our annual Book Fair in person this year. Parents, grandparents, and carers can come to the library to view and purchase books in person from Friday 26 August. The sale will be open before and after school. I will be sending the exact days and times via a note on the Parent Portal.

We will also be sharing photos of all the items for sale via Facebook so please keep an eye out for that communication in the last week of August. Please don't worry if you are unable to come into school to make a purchase.

A reminder that we will be unable to accept cash payments for any purchases. You can pay by EFTPOS if at school or online at a dedicated Book Fair portal.

The Book Fair can get very busy and I would absolutely love it if you would be able to share some of your time to help me with the sale. If you could help me, and our students, could you please send me an email <u>stmichaelsblktnlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au</u> mentioning your child's name and class, and the day and time (before or after school) you would be able to help.

Premier's Reading Challenge 2022



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

Kinder : Julian Queddeng

Year 2 : Anaya Mehta, Dev Raj, Ava Valenzuela

Year 3 : Jett Boland

Year 4 : Lisa Aryal

This year we have had **135 students register** for the PRC and I have received notifications of 31 students who have completed the challenge. I do not get a notification if your child has completed the challenge until I run the validation reports which will be done after the challenge closes. So please let me know if your child has completed the PRC so that we can all celebrate their achievement through the newsletter.

If your child has finished reading the required number of books, please log-in and enter the details at the <u>PRC website</u> at your earliest. The site does get very busy in the last week of the challenge and you might have difficulty logging in.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please contact me via email <u>stmichaelsblktnlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au</u> Happy Reading

Mrs Pinto

ST. MICHAEL'S SPORTS NEWS

ST NICHOLAS NETBALL GALA DAY TEAMS

Congratulations to the following students who have been successful in making the Netball Gala Teams. The St Nicholas Netball Gala Day will take place on Wednesday 24th August, 2022. Permission notes will be distributed within the week.

8 Year Old Girls				
Anaya Mehta	Sophia Azar	Nana Acheampong	Gurnur Kaur	Kara Asidera
Charlotte O'Neill	Elizabeth Bachak	Grace Fenech		

9 Year Old Girls					
Laurena Stribl	Jacey Ragasajo	Rene AbuGanaba	Elissa Layous	Arok Michael	
Dina Kuanza	Zoe Vumbaca-Fisher	Charlize Pickering			

10 Year Old Girls				
Destiny Karam	Elora O'Neill	Mikaela Fenech	Nhyira Acheampong	Madison Charlwood
Samantha Ridout	Achok Mow	Jacinta Thompson	Thalia Yazbek	

11 Year Old Girls				
Antonia Duquegaviria	Anna Belle Taktak	Aastha Patel	Delinda Thompson	Georgia Allen
Olivia Layous	Rihanna AbuGanaba	Sophie Ackroyd		

12 Year Old Girls				
Julie Aboka	Mila Stribl	Isabella Dabit	Sienna Cataldo	Gianna Tabone
Maisy Cyreszko	Claire de Vos	Nyidier Mow	Olivia Cousens	

Junior Boys				
Jonathan Asfour	Cooper Rowling	Alex Cataldo	Thomas Krummins	Matthew de Vos
Lachlan Ackroyd	Gianluca Novella	Dev Raj		

Senior Boys					
Nicholas Serra	Anthony El Rassi	Alex Moggridge	Heath Warren	Scott Toole	
Noah Bajada	Oliver Smith	Jeeta Smith			

In order for this event to be successful, parent helpers will be needed to assist in taking on the team manager role for the day. To become a team manager, you will need to complete the parent volunteer module which is located below.

Congratulations to all students who were successful in making their respective teams.

PARENT 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, Amanda Ireton Sport Coordinator

