



DIARY DATES

Sunday 27th November

- **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Year A

Monday 28th November

- Year 6 Girls Orientation to Nagle College

Tuesday 29th November

- 3:45-4:45 Kindergarten 2023 Parent Workshop
- Parent Newsletter publish

Wednesday 30th November

- Year 5 Leadership speeches presented
- 11am Funeral for Mrs Easton's daughter at Leppington

Friday 2nd December

- CRAZY HAIR & SOCK DAY – Fundraiser for new bubblers
- 2:10pm Whole School Assembly (Final for 2022)

Sunday 4th December

- **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Year A

Monday 5th December

- 9:30am End of Year Mass at Nagle Hall - ALL WELCOME

Tuesday 6th December

- Year 6 Graduation Mass & Presentation Ceremony

Wednesday 7th December

- Year 6 BIG DAY OUT with MOTIV8

Thursday 8th December

- Talent Quest

Friday 9th December

- 6pm Christmas Concert led by Andrew Chinn – ALL WELCOME

Sunday 11th December

- **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Year A

Monday 12th December

- Semester Two Reports sent home
- 11:30am Students Meet their Teacher for 2023
- 5:30pm Year 6 End of Year Celebration

Friday 16th December

- Last day for students

2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

Parent Newsletter Term 4 Week 8 2022

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

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

On Sunday we began the season of Advent. This is the first season of the church year and we now look to the Gospels of Matthew for enlightenment. There are four weeks in Advent as we await the birth(day) of Jesus at Christmas.

Waiting can often sap our energies and stifle our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: What should I be doing? The Gospels suggest we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon.

What is it like to wait for God? Many of us know exactly what that is like. We wait for God to explain why a family member died too young. We wait for God to open a path out of a marriage that has ended, into a new place where healing might begin.

And of course, the last few years have been a time of waiting. We've waited during COVID and FLU outbreaks. We've waited on test results wondering whether we are positive or not.

Perhaps we are better equipped now than we ever have been to understand the often repeated Biblical mandate to 'wait for the coming of the Lord'.

Throughout November, we were also reminded by St. Ambrose to remember all who have died "that we have loved the departed during life; let us not abandon them in death."

Please keep in your prayers all who have died in your family and in our community so they too will be remembered, loved and cherished for eternity.

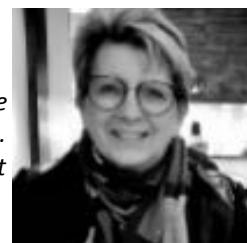


Thank you to everyone that have sent their condolences and best wishes to Mrs Anne Easton and her husband Michael on the loss of their only child Anastasia who passed away suddenly. The funeral will take place on Wednesday at Leppington with a large number of staff attending. I acknowledge St Patrick's Blacktown, Patrician Brothers Blacktown, St Monica's North Parramatta and Nagle College Blacktown who are helping us staff classes during the day.

Congratulations to Mrs Natalie Dias and her husband Garret on the birth of their daughter Amelia and Mrs Emma Eagleton and her husband William on the birth of their daughter Zandaya. All are doing well.

FAREWELL

At the end of the year, we farewell Mrs Karen Foxe who has been appointed Assistant Principal at Holy Family Emerton after 23 years at St. Michael's. We also say farewell to Mr Luke Xuereb after 11 years at St Michael's who has taken up a position at St John XIII at Stanhope Garden. Miss Alexandria Loizou; Mr Scott Carroll; Miss Demi Brooks and Mr



Stephen Erceg have accepted positions at other schools in 2023. These teachers have made a huge contribution to our community. We wish them well at their new schools.

The following teachers are on maternity leave – Mrs Rebecca Speed, Mrs Stephanie Lumanglas; Mrs Emma Eagleton; Mrs Stephanie Bourne; Mrs Natalie Dias. We hope to see them back at St Michael's soon.

We welcome to St Michael's the following teachers - Mrs Desiree Macaraeg, Mrs Catherine Shaw; Mrs Leanne Ward, Mrs Jennifer Warn, Mrs Melinda Parker, Mr Raphael William Joseph and Mr Nicholas Pearce.

I now present our classroom teachers for 2023

Kindergarten - Miss Moylan; Mrs Aberin; Miss Hall; Mrs Said

Year 1 - Mrs Moore; Miss Micallef; Mrs Macaraeg; Mrs Shaw/Mrs Macaulay

Year 2 - Miss Labour; Miss Hewitson; Mrs Warn; Miss Vincent

Year 3 - Mrs Leckie; Mrs Rye; Mr Pearce; Mrs Carrington/Miss Prested

Year 4 - Miss Bodle; Mr Spicer; Miss Haddad/Mr Pickersgill; Mr Baddock/Mrs Williams

Year 5 - Mrs Ciccone; Mr Baird; Mrs Ward; Mrs Easton/Mrs Barbuto

Year 6 - Miss Estepa; Mr Luckman; Mr De Celis; Mrs Reaidi/ Mrs Parker.

We look forward to our 'Meet the Teacher Day' on Monday 12th December where our students (including our new students) will meet their teachers for 2023.

God bless,



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.

VACATION CARE

AMBROSE Vacation Care 6:30am-6:30pm will be available from 19th December to 21st December and will be closed from 22nd December to 6th January.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

Mr Whitby's our Executive Director - Thanksgiving Mass

On 16th November the four Year 6 School Leaders joined myself and Mr Carroll at the Thanksgiving Mass for Mr Greg Whitby, the CEDP Executive Director. The leaders got to meet and introduce themselves to both Mr Whitby and Bishop Vincent. I was very proud of how reverent they were during the Mass and how well they represented the St Michael's community at the event.



Kindergarten 2023

Over the past few weeks, we have welcomed the newest members of our school community to St Michael's - our Kindergarten 2023 children. The children enjoyed meeting new friends and joining in fun activities such as singing, dancing, craft and Maths pods. It was wonderful to see their smiling faces and inquisitive minds. We can't wait for them to join us at school next year.



CRAZY HAIR AND SOCK DAY

This year, the Student Representative Council (SRC) discussed that we need new bubblers for the school. In order to fundraise for the bubblers, we will be holding **Crazy Hair and Socks Day on Friday 2nd December** for a \$2 gold coin donation.

Please note this is ***not*** a mufti dress day and students are still required to wear their school uniform and shoes.



Emergency Practices

Over the past few weeks, our school participated in a number of emergency evacuation and lockdown drills. These were carried out to practise the school's procedures in the event of an emergency. We congratulate our children and staff for their cooperation during these.



Miss Rebecca Teulan
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

You are invited to join us on Monday 5th December at 9:30am for our end of year Thanksgiving Mass at Nagle Hall.

You are also invited to attend our Christmas Concert on Friday 9th December led by Andrew Chinn at Nagle Hall from 6pm.

Please find attached is the Sacramental Program for First Eucharist in May 2023 for students in Year 4 who have made their Reconciliation. The last day for enrolment is 10th April 2023.



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN



First Eucharist

Parish Sacramental Process 2023

PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE 6 SESSIONS IN TOTAL
(3 PARENT/S ENCOUNTERS AND 3 FAMILY WORKSHOPS FOLLOWED BY MASS).
THIS MEANS THAT THERE WILL BE 1 PARENT/S ENCOUNTER AND 1 FAMILY WORKSHOP PER WEEK
The Sacrament of First Eucharist is for students in Year 4 or above
who have been prepared for their First Reconciliation. Enrolment Cut-Off Date: 10th April 2023.

PARENT/S ENCOUNTERS (3~Sessions PARENT/S ONLY)	FAMILY WORKSHOPS (3 Sessions ~ PARENT/S & CANDIDATE/S)
<p>Parent/s Encounter 1: Tuesday 2nd May 2023 - 7.00pm. or Thursday 4th May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p>Parent/s Encounter 2: Tuesday 9th May 2023 - 7.00pm. or Thursday 11th May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p>Parent/s Encounter 3: Tuesday 16th May 2023 - 7.00pm. or Thursday 18th May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p><small>Please Note: It is planned that Tuesday Sessions will take place at St. Patrick's Primary School Multipurpose Area. Thursday Sessions will take place at St. Patrick's Church Cardinal Clancy Room. Any changes to venue of program will be advised accordingly.</small></p>	<p>Family Workshop 1: Saturday 6th May 2023 - 4.00pm. or Sunday 7th May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p>Family Workshop 2: Saturday 13th May 2023 - 4.00pm. or Sunday 14th May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p>Family Workshop 3: Saturday 20th May 2023 - 4.00pm. or Sunday 21st May 2023 - 9.00am.</p> <p><small>Please Note: It is planned that sessions will take place at St. Patrick's Primary School Multipurpose Area. Any changes to venue of program will be advised accordingly.</small></p>
<p>First Eucharist Masses-- Saturday 27th May 5.30pm Mass (St. Patrick's) & Sunday 28th May 9.00am Mass (St. Michael's Church) Sunday 3rd June 10.00am Mass (St. Patrick's Church) & Sunday 4th June 6.00pm (St. Michael's Church)</p>	
<p><small>Your families presence at all meetings is crucial for the proper understanding of the sacramental process for your child. If you have any questions, please call Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Sacramental Coordinator) at the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or mobile: 0422 724 008 or email : sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au</small></p>	
<p>OUR MISSION STATEMENT <small>Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture of the Catholic Church and to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.</small></p>	



St Michael's Christmas Hamper Appeal

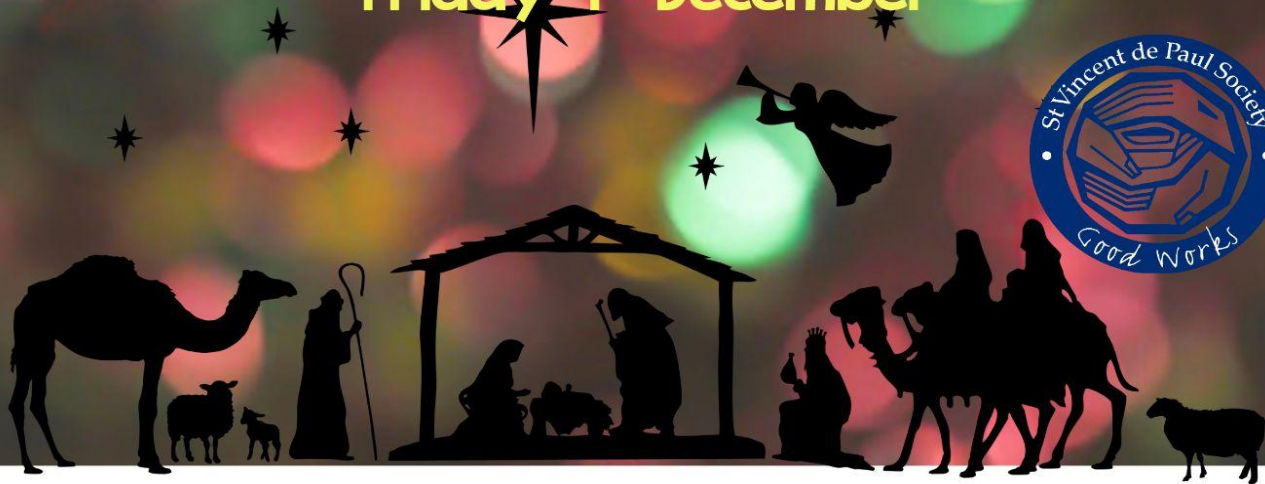
Help families in our community who are less fortunate

Contribute to the appeal by donating:

- ★ Christmas items
- ★ Christmas food
- ★ Long lasting food
- ★ Toys/Gifts
- ★ New Clothing
- ★ Gift Cards



**Last day for donations
Friday 9th December**





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A LEARNING AWARD IN TERM 4 WEEK 6.

Kindergarten – Zyra Kaur, Ellie Huang, Samuel Ackroyd, Jordan Napier, Anthony Salama, Reyansh Shrestha, Mahee Trivedi, Asher Young, Olivia Tahmasby, Spencer Thompson, Samir Sheteh, Emma Davies, Ephraim Lasu, Olivia Searle, Vaughan Whitmore, Charlie Krumins, Ava Young.

Year 1 – Aadhya Sharma, Alyssa Abou-Mehrez, Kush Bhavsar, Roman Gardiner, Kalden Bardewa, Cameron Dela Cruz, Nathan Rauniyar Mary Zaragoza, Keifer Halagao, Udayveer Punia, Charlie Tink, Kuir Michael.

Year 2 – Jeev Pratham Singh, Adam Hadiwidjaja, Mariah Gebrael, Xavier Atila, Gurmanat Kaur, Zavion Clews, Alannah Boland, William Cusack, Subal Sharma, Sarkis Yaghi, Elizabeth Bachak, Aliet Acuoth, James de Vos, Althea Lasalo-Tolu, Darsh Patel, Samantha Mangala, Samuel Abdelmalik, Liam Yalisi.

Year 3 – Jett Boland, Georgine Matocinos, Aaleyah Grima, Shanaya Christian, Rene AbuGanaba, Lorena Garcia, Francis Wassef, Chris Leke, Tanvi Theepatharan, Zayden Requierme, Krisha Patel, Lorian Aquilina, Robben Sanga, Ciara Wong, Monika Dinjar, Gracie Nelson.

Year 4 – Sam Kome, Cooper Rowling, Mikaela Fenech, Hirva Prajapati, Christian Babela, Paramveer Singh, Dante Janezic, Dhanashri Bhatt, Kaiden Halagao, Madeleine Chakti, Ashreen Kaur, Aavni Nand, Nixie Patel, Christian Moore, Kurmal Shata, Pia Singh.


Year 5 – Tia Koutchavlis, Violet Stevens, Alexander Thuaux, Harkeerat Singh, Arya Jayswal, Xavier Wong, Juris Francisco, Leon Volvozidis, Vevina Anglo, Matthew-James Refalo, Antonio Capeski, Maria Salhab Tin Le, Louise Obra, Madison Charlwood, Thalia Yazbek.








Year 6 – Tia El-Khoury, Benjamin Furiscal, Elizabeth Toole, Madison Rendon, Lucas Gock, Joshua Moore, Annabelle Yaghi, Anna Belle Taktak, Moses Neil, Gracia Leke, Maysy Cyreszko, Sahib Korotania.

ST. MICHAEL'S STUDENT ATTENDANCE 2022

—EVERY LEARNER-EVERY DAY—



School	School Attendance Level
*St Michaels Primary School Blacktown South	 64.1%

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level
K	 67.9%
1	 69.5%
2	 52.8%
3	 57.5%
4	 66.6%
5	 65.6%
6	 70.1%

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.

Your child should be at school every school day until the end of the year, unless they are really sick and require a visit to the doctor where you can obtain a medical certificate.

Regular school attendance plays a **critical role** in ensuring your child 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.

Congratulations to the following children who have 100% attendance in 2022 and will receive a special medallion in recognition.

Dominic Azar; Enola Arima; Malek Michael; Nana Acheampong; Sophia Azar; Nhyita Acheampong; Thomas Krumins; Arok Michael; Peter Zaidan.



FROM THE LIBRARY

All Year 6 students and students leaving the school this year need to return ALL library books immediately.

Return of books

Thank you to the parents and carers who have helped their children find their books and return them. And a big thank you to the parents and carers who have paid for lost and damaged books.

The school library has a carefully curated collection for the reading pleasure of all our students and staff. Payment of your bill ensures that we can maintain the quality of our books for the school community. We are still waiting for some students to return their books and I am sure they will be returned soon.

Magazines on Sora

We have a big selection of magazines available for reading on Sora, our popular eBook platform. All these magazines can be read simultaneously by anyone who wishes to read them, which means that your child does not have to wait to borrow a magazine. They can borrow and start reading immediately.

We have magazines such as [Time for Kids \(8+\)](#), [Time for Kids \(5+\)](#), [National Geographic Kids](#), [National Geographic Little Kids](#), [Minecraft World Magazine](#), and [Krash](#) to name but a few.

Comics on Sora

We have over 350 'always available' comics for our students. 'Always available' means that there is no waiting to borrow a book if someone else has borrowed it. These titles are quite literally always available 😊.

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

Happy Reading

Mrs Pinto

Librarian

Arrangements for the Beginning of the 2023 School Year

Kindergarten 2023

Friday 27th January to Wednesday 1st February 2023	Kindergarten teachers conducting one-on-one assessments with your children. (See below for explanation)
Thursday 2nd February 2023	Kindergarten start school at 9.30am and finishes at 12:30pm.
Friday 3rd February 2023	Kindergarten starts at 9:30am and finishes at 12:30pm.
Monday 6th February 2023	Kindergarten stay for the whole day 9am-3pm.

Years 1 - 6, 2023

Friday 27th January and Monday 30th January 2023	Teachers conducting one-on-one student assessments for children in Years 1 – 6.
Tuesday 31st January 2023	Children in Years 1 – 6 begin school 9-3pm.

REFLECTION GARDEN BRICK WALL FUNDRAISER

To add to our new reflective garden, we will build a brick wall made of specially ordered bricks with the names of families from our school over the last 60 years.

If you would like to order a brick please fill out the form below.

- Cost of one brick is \$25.
- You can include up to a maximum of 48 letters on a brick.
- You can purchase more than one brick if you wish. If so, you need to fill in a separate google form for each brick.



Payments will need to be made at the school office electronically, either in person or over the phone.



All orders and payments are due by Friday 2nd December 2022. Any brick orders that have not been paid by this date will not be processed.

Link- <https://forms.gle/RZbrMFMQPVY2kgt79>

SPORTS NEWS

2023 TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 16th November, St Michael's Primary School conducted our annual twilight swimming carnival. Students participated in a variety of events and distances, showing fantastic spirit and sportsmanship towards their fellow competitors.

Congratulations to the following students who have placed in the top 4 for their respective events:

Event	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Open Boys 100m Freestyle	Lachlan Ackroyd			
Open Girls 100m Freestyle	Jacinta Thompson	Mikaela Fenech		
8yr Girls 50m Freestyle	Matilda Edwards	Ava Whilesmith		
8yr Boys 50m Freestyle	James de Vos			
9yr Girls 50m Freestyle	Sophia Azar	Grace Fenech		
10yr Girls 50m Freestyle	Charlize Pickering	Callie Marsden		
10yr Boys 50m Freestyle	Lachlan Ackroyd	Matthew de Vos	Vivaan Aggarwal	James Koufos
11yr Girls 50m Freestyle	Jacinta Thompson	Mikaela Fenech	Harper Gillett	Amelia Hadiwidjaja

11yr Boys 50m Freestyle	Kaiden Halagao	Gianluca Novella	Maks Markovic	
12yr Girls 50m Freestyle	Shimmer Ghodke			
12yr Boys 50m Freestyle	Alexander Koufos	Dominic Azar	Evan O'Keefe-McWhinnie	
Snr Boys Multiclass 50m Freestyle	Daniel Jemison			
Jnr Girls 50m Backstroke	Charlize Pickering	Matilda Edwards	Sophia Azar	Callie Marsden
Jnr Boys 50m Backstroke	Lachlan Ackroyd	Vivaan Aggarwal	Matthew de Vos	James Koufos
11yr Girls 50m Backstroke	Jacinta Thompson	Mikaela Fenech		
11yr Boys 50m Backstroke	Kaiden Halagao	Maks Markovic	Gianluca Novella	
Snr Girls 50m Backstroke	Shimmer Ghodke			
Snr Boys 50m Backstroke	Alexander Koufos	Dominic Azar	Evan O'Keefe-McWhinnie	
Snr Boys Multiclass 50m Backstroke	Harkeerat Singh			
Jnr Girls 50m Breaststroke	Sophia Azar	Ava Whilesmith	Grace Fenech	
Jnr Boys 50m Breaststroke	Lachlan Ackroyd	Matthew de Vos	Vivaan Aggarwal	
11yr Girls 50m Breaststroke	Jacinta Thompson	Mikaela Fenech	Harper Gillett	
11yr Boys 50m Breaststroke	Kaiden Halagao			
Snr Girls 50m Breaststroke	Shimmer Ghodke			
Snr Boys 50m Breaststroke	Dominic Azar			
Snr Boys Multiclass Breaststroke	Harkeerat Singh			
Jnr Girls 50m Butterfly	Sophia Azar	Grace Fenech		
11yr Girls 50m Butterfly	Jacinta Thompson	Mikaela Fenech		
Snr Boys 50m Butterfly	Dominic Azar			

The 2023 Zone Swimming Carnival is anticipated to take place early in Term 1, 2023. When more information is available, students who have made the qualifying times will be provided with further information.



Congratulations to all of our students!

Yours in Sport,
Mrs Ireton
Sport Coordinator

Please find below information about the upcoming parish Christmas Spectacular that you are all invited to attend.



MQOF YOUTH PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

SATURDAY 17TH DEC

6PM - 10 PM

**NAGLE HALL
58A ORWELL STREET, BLACKTOWN**

We **invite** you and your families to join us for a celebration of Christmas with stalls, carolling and the annual Christmas play to fundraise for our **'World Youth Day 2023'** pilgrims

\$5 CHILDREN	UNDER 12 YEARS OLD	TICKET INFORMATION: All tickets include Entry and Food 1x Sausage Sizzle 1x Bottled Water
\$10 ADULTS	12 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE	

PLEASE SCAN OR VISIT FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKET PURCHASES
www.mqofblacktown.org/mqofchristmasspectacular



St Michaels Blacktown South

155 Reservoir Road, Blacktown NSW 2148

Ambrose School Age Care supports working families needing childcare outside of school hours – but our activities are so cool, every child is invited to join the fun!

Our programs are all about well-being and health, with lots of outdoor play, sport, group games and opportunities to build confidence.

They're also a great way to make friends and most importantly – have fun!

We are a fully accredited Service operating under the National Quality Framework and have been assessed as exceeding all standards, so your child is in safe hands.

Our Opening Hours

Before School Care: 6.30am – 8.45am

School Care: 2:45pm – 6.30pm

Vacation Care/Pupil Free Days: 6.30am – 6.30pm

Our fees Government subsidy (CCS) available depending on each family's eligibility.

Session	Time	After 85% Child Care Subsidy*	After 50% Child Care Subsidy*	Advertised Fee No Child Care Subsidy
Morning	6.30am – 8.15am	\$3.85	\$10.50	\$20 per session
Afternoon	2.30pm – 6.00pm	\$4.5	\$15.00	\$30 per session
Pupil Free Days/Vacation Care	6.30am – 6.00pm	\$11.55	\$31.50	\$60 per day

*Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can provide up to 85% of the cost of your childcare fees. External party charges for in-service workshops and excursions may apply.

All educators working directly with the children hold a valid working with children check and there is always an educator rostered who is qualified in first aid, asthma, anaphylaxis and CPR.

ENROL NOW, VISIT: ambrose.org.au/enrol/

Call: 0419554302

Email: stmichaelsbs@ambrose.org.au



Learning for life