



## 2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

### Monday

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

- Parent Newsletter published

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

- Last day Term 3 for students
- MacKillop Athletics Carnival

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

- Pupil Free Day

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

- Pupil Free Day

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

- Students return for Term 4

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

- Basketball Gala Day

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

- 6pm-7:30pm Parent Information Meeting for Kinder 2023

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

- Kinder 2023 Orientation Day 1  
Session 1 9:30-11:30  
Session 2 12:30-2:15

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

- St Michael's Day - Student Colour Run Activities Day

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

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

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

- Year 5 Leadership Day with Andrew Chinn

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

- Kinder 2023 Orientation Day 2  
Session 3 9:30-11:30  
Session 4 12:30-2:15

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

- 4pm Twilight Swimming Carnival

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November**

- Year 5 Leadership Day with MOTIV8

## Parent Newsletter Term 3 Week 10 2022

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

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

We again come to the end of another busy term. Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the term. On behalf of the staff I would also like to thank you, our parents, for all the encouragement you give to your children as they come to school each day.

When a family's love and support is combined with the expert knowledge of teachers, it can have a significant and lasting impact: Children can be more likely to enjoy learning and to be motivated to do well. Children can have better relationships with other children, improved behaviour and greater confidence. Children can do better at school and are more likely to not miss days at school.

We remember our Year 6 student and friend Nathan who passed away at the beginning of the term. May his memories stay with us forever and remind us of the times he spent with us. God bless Nathan and his family.

As you are aware tomorrow Wednesday 21st September, will be the last day of term for the students. This has come quite unexpectedly with the announcement of the National Public Holiday on Thursday 22nd and then the decision by CEDP to grant a Staff Development/ Pupil Free day on Friday 23rd September. Monday 10th October is also a Staff Development/Pupil Free day, meaning that the first day of Term 4 will be Tuesday 11th October. We appreciate your support and understanding of this decision, and also acknowledge the difficulty this change may cause for some families.

When I look back over our calendar for the term every single grade has had many highlights in their learning as well as an opportunity for parents to be back in the school to engage with their children at school: The Athletics Carnival and Infants Fun Day; Book Week events, Character Parade, Book Fair and Book Week performance; Father's Day celebrations; Strings Program; 101 Days of Kindergarten; Confirmation, Reconciliation, Feast of Mary MacKillop and Feast of the Assumption; ICAS English and Maths; NAPLAN; Year 6 Planetarium Incursion and Premiers Reading Challenge.

Congratulations to our students who have represented the school in so many ways:- at Netball Gala Days, Zone, Diocesan and MacKillop Carnivals, Soccer Gala Days, Representative Sport, at Captivate Drama, Voice Of Youth.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the incredibly professional and dedicated St Michael's Staff. Teachers and support staff are passionate about your children and the learning programmes that they prepare and implement. They are truly remarkable.

At St Michael's we join with our world wide community in appreciation of the remarkable life and service of Queen Elizabeth II who throughout her 70 year reign was steadfast in her faith, in her prayers and worship. She spoke openly and often of her devotion to God, and to the Christian message of respect and the value of people, of all faiths and none. May she rest in peace.

God bless and safe holidays,

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** – Day Care available at the AMBROSE Centre – Phone Smita on 0419 554 302 to reserve a position.

**Term 4 - Monday 10th October 2022 (Introduction to New K-2 English and Mathematics Syllabus)**

**Term 4 - Friday 25th November 2022 (Staff Formation day)**

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

The school holidays are almost here, which means your child is about to have a lot of free time. Considering how much time we all spend in front of a screen these days, it's important to keep that balanced with some offline activities. Below is a compiled list of offline activities to help keep your child curious and learning during this period.

- **Board games:** You can stick with the classics including Monopoly, Chess, Scrabble and Jenga. Board games can help with developing your child's literacy and numeracy skills.
- **Have an indoor or garden picnic:** An indoor or outdoor picnic in your garden or local park will help to break the monotony of the routine and just add some fun and whimsy to meal times.
- **Build a puzzle:** This is an easy and simple way to keep little ones busy or even create an entire family activity.
- **Teach your child to cook:** Getting your child or teen to cook a few basic meals during the holiday for themselves or the family is a great life skill. It'll also help them feel a sense of accomplishment once they've successfully created a meal by themselves.
- **Go for a walk:** Getting out of the house and doing exercise in a safe way once a day is recommended for good health. A few times a week, go for a walk with the immediate family.
- **Homemade play-dough:** You can make this with a variety of recipes online and it'll give your younger child hours of enjoyment. It also supports the development of your child's fine motor skills, teaching your younger child how to grip and pull.
- **Start an art project:** Suggest to your child to create a drawing, painting or craft something. This will help them to use their creative brain. You could also schedule time to work on the art project over multiple days.

### CHANGEOVER INTO SUMMER UNIFORM TERM 4

From **Tuesday 11th October Term 4**, all children are expected to wear their full summer uniform. Please label all items clearly, especially hats, jackets and drink bottles. Children are responsible for their own belongings. Uniforms can be purchased from Lowes in Blacktown. Now is the time to order summer uniforms so that you have them for Term 4.

Miss Rebecca Teulan  
Assistant Principal



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please keep the following students in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

Sergio Abela, Lachlan Ackroyd, Elena Amper, Eddie Amper, Sophia Azar, Marcus Babela, Harry Bajada, Mason Biscoe, Jett Boland, Fredrich Brillo, Alex Cataldo, Isaiah Celeste, Bradley D'Cruz, Matthew de Vos, Phoenix Dela Cruz, Olivia Estepa, Piper Gillett, Prisha Gonsalves, Annalise Kelly, Thomas Krumins, Georgine Matocinos, Sebastian Meli, Gracie Nelson, Jacey Ragasojo, Stella Shammass, Charlie Smith, Alyssa Vilathgamuwa, Lucas Vu.



**MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY**  
PARISH: BLACKTOWN

*Gentle Reminder*

**FIRST RECONCILIATION PROCESS**

Registrations for the sacramental process for First Reconciliation are due to close on the **18th September 2022**. This process is for students from year 3 and above who have been baptized and wanting to prepare to receive First Eucharist and Confirmation.

**Register Now:**  
<https://www.mqofblacktown.org/first-reconciliation-yr-3-rego>

Thank you! We look forward to being with you on this journey.  
If you have any questions, please call  
Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Sacramental Coordinator)  
at the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or 0422 724 008  
email : [sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au)

Fr. Regie  
Parish Priest

Gerald "Ged" Oblea  
Sacramental Coordinator



Gracious God, we give thanks  
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,  
for her faith and her dedication to duty.  
Bless our nation as we mourn her death  
and may her example continue to inspire us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Mr Scott Carroll*  
*Acting Religious Education Coordinator*



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS  
WHO RECEIVED A LEARNING AWARD IN TERM 3  
WEEKS 7 & 8.**

**Kindergarten** – Francesco Agresta, Zyra Kaur, Javas Ghimire, Samanta Sharma, Asher Young, Mahee Trivedi, Elijah Ashe, Kristian Banovic, Noah Patel, Mylo Rendon, Joy Saws, Jayda Tjhia, Gurman Sran, Aadir Trivedi, Tavita Sua, Jacob Policarpio.

**Year 1** – Kush Bhavsar, Vihaan Khadka, Claire Polley, Alek Mayen, Aveline Saccasan, Noah Lehrer, Martha Chabiet, Neer Baxi, Anastasia O'Regan, Nathaniel Karam, Kuir Michael, Malaia Nadan.

**Year 2** – Namu Verma, Jeev Pratham Singh, Ayden Casulla, Gladys Butros, Alexia Vivelis, Gurmanat Kaur, Ruby Pickering, Adel Shammass, Aliet Acuothe, Bruce Hayton, Sarkis Yaghi, Christian Basford, Yessica Jain, Sara Goyena, Alisa Pye, Amaya Koopu, Dev Raj.

**Year 3** – Reet Dhanju, Bradley D'Cruz, James Koufos, Olivia Estepa, Arshdeep Singh, Lachlan Ackroyd, Chris Leke, Karol Kalra, Tanvi Theepatharan, Savannah Briggs, Charlie Smith, Thomas Krumins, Elihdan Arias, Alex Cataldo, Lavanya Bhatt.

**Year 4** – Joanna Alphonse, Maria DeDios, Abigail Opoku, Daniel Jemison, Arya Trivedi, Callie Marsden, Dante Janezic, Shruti Dube, Zoe Vumbaca-Fisher, Kethana Pradeep, Achok Mow, Kyle Thammavongsa, Angie Trpcevska, Niam Derrick, Gianluca Novella, Elora O'Neill, Liam O'Connor.

**Year 5** – Violet Stevens, Florence Muyu, Joseph Muratore, Bronte Said, Serenity White, Bentley Haeren-Vaz, Ivy Hebden, Estelle Fong, Dominic Azar, Maria Salhab, Bryson Debono, Vevina Anglo, Arnav Dube, Thalia Yazbek, Louise Obra, Ryana Prajapati.



**Year 6 –** Aariv Patel, Simar Hothi, Ava Gebrael, Shannon Sharma, Christian Barrs, Arielle Farrow, Nicholas Ciccone, Lauren Renouf, Anna Belle Taktak, Levi Cumbo, Patrick Agon, Annabelle Yaghi, Heath Warren, Zorawar Dullat, Sophie Ackroyd, Claire de Vos.

## 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.**

## ST. MICHAEL'S STUDENT ATTENDANCE 2022








### -EVERY LEARNER-EVERY DAY-

Target <b>90%</b>	Current Attendance @ St. Michael's <b>63.8%</b>
----------------------	--

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	 63.8%

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level
K	 67.9%
1	 69.5%
2	 52.8%
3	 57.2%
4	 65.9%
5	 65.6%
6	 69.6%

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

## Arrangements for the Beginning of the 2023 School Year

### Kindergarten 2023

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

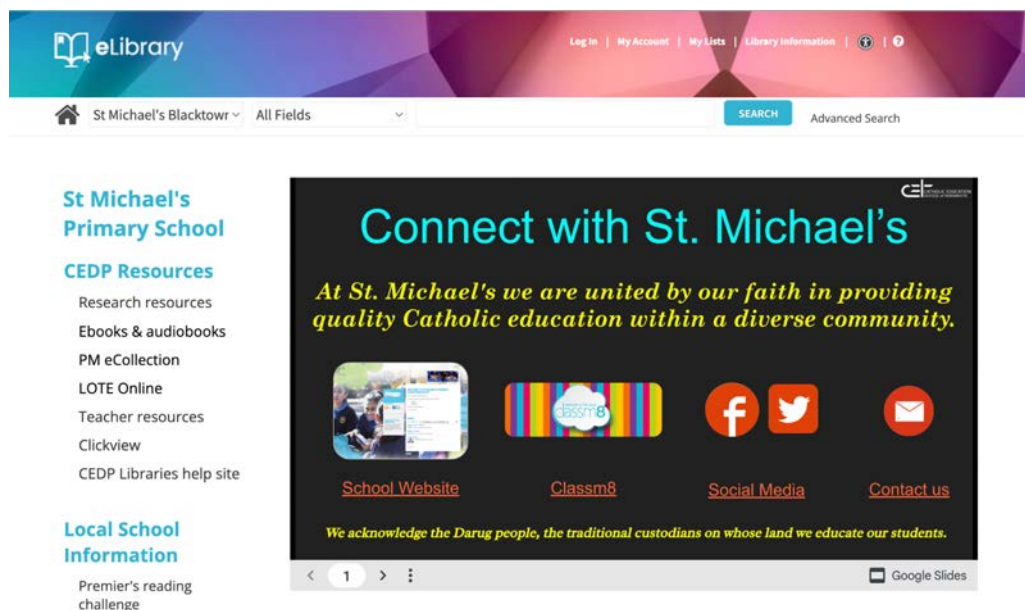
### Years 1 - 6, 2023

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

# FROM THE LIBRARY

## Access to books for the holidays

You can always access our large collection of popular books to suit all ages and abilities via our eBook platforms. The ebooks, audio books, comics, and magazines are all free to read and can be accessed on any device anywhere in Australia or the world. If your child is going to use a tablet to read the books, you will need to download the apps from the app store. The apps are free as well.

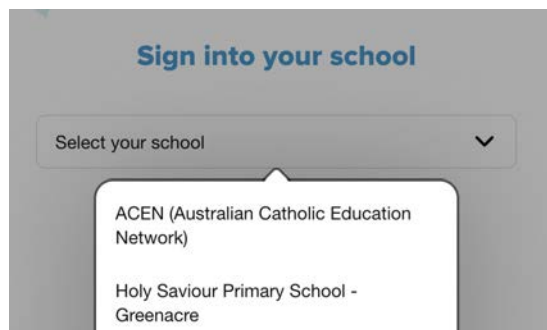


Our [eLibrary](#) portal will be the easiest way to access Sora and Wheelers (our two eBook platforms). You will find videos that will guide you through the steps to access eBooks and audiobooks when you click on the links on the main page.

Below you will find a short explainer as well.

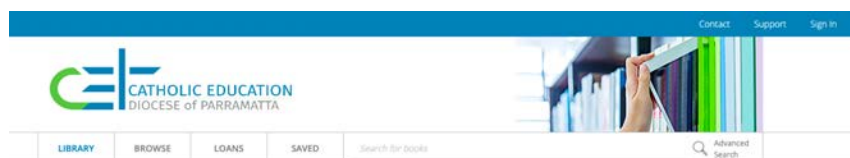
## **SORA** Click on eBooks & audiobooks, then click on the link for Sora (Overdrive ACEN Collection)

The first time you access Sora on your device (any computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone) you will need to sign in. At the sign in page, click on the down arrow and then choose **ACEN (Australian Catholic Education Network)** as your school. Then click sign in. You will now be taken to the CEDP log-in page. Students will have to log in using their usernames and passwords that they use to access the internet at school. Once they verify their identity, they will be taken to the Sora site.



You will have to follow this process the first time you access Sora on any new device.

## **WHEELERS** Click on eBooks & audiobooks, then click on the link for CEDP Wheelers eBooks.



You will find a sign-in button on the top right hand corner of the page. When you click on it, you will be taken to the CEDP login page. Students will have to log in using their usernames and passwords that they use to access the internet at school. Once they verify their identity, they will be able to borrow books to read or to listen to.

## **Highlights on Sora**

We have recently added new books to our collection of **Always Available** books to over 400 eBooks and audiobooks. We have over 150 titles that are suitable for our primary school children. These are books that are always available to borrow and read. You do not have to worry about books being on loan and needing to wait before you can read them.

[Access the collection via this link](#)

You must also check out our collection of over 500 [Read-Along](#) books on Sora. Read the book as you listen to it being read aloud to you. These are great books for our readers who want to become more confident in their reading.

## **Highlights on Wheelers**

We have over 2000 eBooks and audiobooks in our Wheelers collection. Find your favourite series or authors. Below you will find links to some of our favourite Australian authors.

[Deborah Abela](#) - author of the Max Remy and Jasper Zammit series

[Aaron Blabey](#) - author of the Bad Guys series

[Anh Do](#) - author of the Weir Do, Ninja Kid, Hot Dog, and Wolf Girl series

[Jackie French](#) - author of the Wombat picture books and many historical fiction books

## **Blacktown City Libraries**



Blacktown City Libraries have an extensive collection of print and digital resources for your family. My favourite part of their collection is the Community Language Collection - a collection of books, magazines, and DVDs in many different languages. The libraries also have a range of school holiday activities for children of all ages. It is very easy to become a member of the library; you can join [online here](#) or visit any branch of the library to join in person.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please contact me via email [stmichaelsblktlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsblktlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Happy Reading and Safe Holidays

*Mrs Pinto*

Librarian

# SPORTS NEWS

## GALA DAY UPDATES

Due to a number of wet weather events, a number of Gala Days were postponed this term. These Gala Days have been rescheduled for Term 4. The following dates have now been confirmed:

**Tuesday 25th October** - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Basketball Gala Day

**Friday 4th November** - Stage 3 Touch Football (Possibly Stage 2 Touch Football as well - to be confirmed)

Trials have commenced this week for the basketball gala days. Students who are successful for these teams will be notified in Term 4 Week 1.

## DIOCESE & MACKILLOP ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On 2nd September, students from our school competed in the Diocese Athletics Carnival. Our students represented our school with great enthusiasm, generating some amazing results that should be congratulated.

A huge congratulations to **Elijah Koopu** who won the 11 year boys age champion for the diocese carnival. This is an amazing result amongst a tough pool of competitors his age.

Congratulations is also due to our Senior Boys Relay team of **Nicholas Serra, Noah Bajada, Joshua Ghattas and Elijah Koopu** who placed 1st in their relay event, qualifying them for the Mackillop Carnival. Well done to these students who will be representing our Diocese at the Mackillop Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 21st September. St Michael's wishes all of our students the best of luck on the day.

## 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*




**EAGLES  
SOFTBALL**

If you are looking for your child to play something new and not cost a fortune this maybe the sport for you.


Play at the same time and venue each week.




5-6yo  
**FREE**  
with Active Kids Voucher  
includes uniform hire  
Mitt & ball




7-12  
**\$25.00** with  
Active Kids Voucher  
includes uniform hire  
Mitt & ball  
7-9 Teeball  
10-12 Modball  
(beginner softball)



Both boys and girls welcome.  
Never played, it doesn't matter  
we cater to all abilities.



For more information call  
Lyn 0422 665 336



<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/granthameagles/>



60<sup>years</sup>

Join us to celebrate  
the anniversary of  
**St Michael's Primary School**



Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
9:30am Mass at Nagle Hall  
followed by light refreshments and a concert.

RSVP to Danielle Rye  
on 8869 6200 or via email at  
[drye@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:drye@parra.catholic.edu.au)



# ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN

Now accepting students for 2023!

- Kindergarten
- Years 1-6



Chat with us today!  
Ph-02 8869 6200



St. Michael's Primary  
155 Reservoir Road  
Blacktown 2148



PATRICIAN BROTHERS'  
COLLEGE BLACKTOWN

IS WHERE YOU  
**BELONG**



SCAN ME

Year 7

ENROL  
**NOW FOR**  
**2023/2024**

P: 8811 0300  
W: [patsblacktown.catholic.edu.au](http://patsblacktown.catholic.edu.au)  
E: [patricianbros@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:patricianbros@parra.catholic.edu.au)