



2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 23rd August

- Parent Newsletter published

Wednesday 24th August

- Netball Gala Day

Thursday 25th August

- Kindergarten Excursion to Featherdale
- Chess Challenge Semi-Finals

Friday 26th August

- Book Fair: 26th-31st August
- Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival
- 2pm Whole School Assembly

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
- 9am Fathers' Day Prayer

Sunday 4th September

FATHER'S DAY

Monday 5th September

- Book Week Performance for Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 9th September

- Stage 2 Touch Footy Gala Day Boys and Girls

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 and concert- **ALL WELCOME**

Friday 14th October

- St Michael's 60th Anniversary Fun Day

Parent Newsletter Term 3 Week 6 2022

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

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

On Sunday, our parish - Mary Queen of the Family - celebrated its feast day. It is one of the 47 parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta, servicing the community of Blacktown. The parish is made up of two churches - St. Patrick's and St. Michael's and four schools - St. Patrick's Primary, St. Michael's Primary, Nagle College, Patrician Brothers College; as well as the Ambrose Preschool.



The Catholic faith in Blacktown has a rich and lengthy genealogy. The history of the Church in Blacktown can be traced back to the mid 1800s and now caters for the newest community of Catholics in Blacktown. However, it's important that we remember and celebrate its history, and create new traditions in the same spirit as the old.

In February 2012 the first steps to amalgamation was taken with a formal twinning of the parishes of St Michaels and St Patricks. On 18th September 2014 Bishop Anthony Fisher decreed the amalgamation of St Michaels and St Patricks into a single new parish called **Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown**. Now both parishes share resources and teams and have united various ministry groups.



Our school is part of this history and we share in its past, its present and its future. On Thursday 13th October (Term 4 Week 1) St. Michael's school will celebrate 60 years of education in Blacktown. A formal invitation will be sent out soon, but please save the date. There will be a Mass at Nagle Hall at 9:30pm, followed by light refreshment and then a concert led by our students.

On Friday 14th October the students will take part in a 'FUN DAY' to celebrate our 60 years. This will include a colour run with activities and a BBQ lunch pack. More information to follow soon.

At present we have no COVID-19 cases at school. This is something to celebrate and as we come into Spring the cases of flu should also start to decline. I look forward to seeing our attendance rates improve so students are not missing out on vital learning.

Next week we celebrate Father's Day with our Father's Day Stall on Thursday 1st September. This is followed on Friday by a BBQ Breakfast for Dad's and Father figures starting at 7am followed by short prayer at 9am.



Thank you to all our visitors on Monday who stayed for our Book Character Parade. What a colourful and enjoyable event. Our annual Book Fair begins this Friday until Wednesday next week. The book display will be set up in the Library and you are welcome to visit.

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

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

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

Book Week Competitions

Last Monday, students were each given a Book Week Competition. The two competitions are:

- K-2 Competition- Colouring in Competition
- Years 3-6 Competition- Drawing competition 'Dream with your eyes open and draw a picture of your wildest daydream'

There will be a winner from each grade announced at the assembly this Friday. The winners will receive a \$15 gift voucher to spend at our Book Fair. Entries close Wednesday 24th August.



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 the Mathematics ICAS Assessments, this will take place at 8am Tuesday 30th August. Please ensure your child is on time for the assessment.

CSPA 2022 Parent Survey on Student Wellbeing and Learning

The Catholic School Parents Association (CSPA) is an advocacy group for parents and carers of students attending Catholic schools in NSW. The association is conducting a survey on student learning and well being. This is a significant piece of research. Have your say on what matters regarding the wellbeing and learning of your child. If you are a parent or carer of a child in a Catholic school, CSPA would love to hear from you.

Click on the survey link and share your feedback to assist CSPA in reporting to the Federal Government and Catholic education. Your feedback will remain anonymous.

[Click here for CSPA Parent Survey](#)

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.
 (updated list)

Lachlan Cassar	Sophie Ackroyd	Jessica Fernando
Nicholas Ciccone	Patrick Agon	Juris Francisco
Isabella Dabit	Georgia Allen	Harper Gillett
Lewis Davies	Dominic Azar	Mackenzie Kelly
Victoria Dela Cruz	Noah Bajada	Kevin Labayane
Gian Evangelista	Christian Barrs	Matthew Lemura
Benjamin Furiscal	Elyssa Meli	Jasmine Bowden
Gracia Leke	Rhys Cash	Alexander Moggridge
Joshua Moore	Xayne Casipit	Aaron Nogueiro
Sienna Cataldo	Andrew Nogueiro	Nathaniel Nepomuceno
Levi Cumbo	Louise Obra	Evan O'Keefe-McWhinnie
Gianna Tabone	Claire de Vos	Bronte Said
William Tauro	Bryson Debono	Cianna Simic
Delinda Thompson	Callum Dixon	Oliver Smith
Arielle Farrow	Mila Stribl	Evangeline Young
Alexander Thuaux	Jade Thompson	Preston Young



Mr Scott Carroll
 Acting Religious Education Coordinator



Whole School Assembly

Our next afternoon assembly will be this **Friday 26th 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 3 & 4.

Kindergarten – Mia Hayward, Anna-Maria Accari, Samuel Ackroyd, George Layous, Sami Drake, Priscilla Panthee, Iysha Reddy, Abir Patel, Arok Acuoth, Kanav Klair, Spencer Thompson, Olivia Tahmasby, Ava Young, Bhavya Singh, Clara Reynolds, Geordan Arias.

Year 1 - Anthony Cassar, Sophia Capeski, Arturo Duran, Richard Almojuela, Kalden Bardewa, Sina Alizadeh, Evie Barrs, Martin Zaiden, Amaanat Bhangu, Nardin Kome, Amish Thapa, Christijana Hakim, Anya Gorsia, Udayveer Punia.

Year 2 – Xavier Atila, Aarush Varma, Jake4 Dizon-Esguerra, Mariah Gebrael, Ella Bullivant, Mokham Bhola, Lucas Gec, Joseph Grima, Elizabeth Bachak, Charlotte O'Neill, Anaya Mehta, Emiliana Muratore, Tia Najjar, Blessing Juan, Vivaan Patel, Ayesha Zaman.

Year 3 - Saahil Dave, Prabhsimar Shergill, Georgine Matocinos, Shanaya Christian, Elissa Layous, Isaiah Dagher, Atem Acuoth, Annalise Kelly, Zayden Requierme, Stella Shammas, Riona Lal, Ryan Verma, Elisha Singh, Natalie Salama, Rosario Theos, Anthony Francis.

Year 4 – Joanna Alphonse, Noah Elomina, Mikaela Fenech, Cooper Rowling, Christian Babela, Dina Kuanza, Dhanashri Bhatt, Demira Parashar, Nhyira Acheampong, Style Zhong, Dylan Babela, Lisa Aryal, Aaradhya Chawla, Kurmal Shata, Nixie Patel, Amelia Ventrice.

Year 5 - Christian Yazbek, Lisa Lubajo, Alexander Thuaux, Shimmer Ghodke, Juris Francisco, Elyssa Meli, Jessica Fernando, Patrick Makary, Callum Dixon, Alexander Koufos, Cianna Simic, Ruyaan Shah, Joyce Elmna, Jakob Dinjar, Jamall Knight, Braxton Gec, Navreet Hothi.

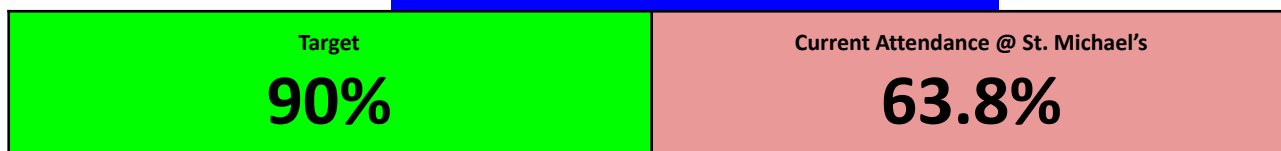
Year 6 - Daniel Shein, Tia El-Koury, Sikander Bains, Acuoth Acuoth, Maya Hadden-Cruz, Joshua Ghattas, Delinda Thompson, Jade Thompson, Jeeta Smith, Arnav Nand, Noah Bajada, Rihanna AbuGanaba, William Marchione, Evangeline Young, Aaron Balbuena, Gianna Tabone.

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—



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	● 69.9%
2	● 52.8%
3	● 57.2%
4	● 65.3%
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.

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.



FROM THE LIBRARY





Book Character Parade

It was wonderful to see all the parents and carers who made the morning very special by coming to celebrate the start of Book Week with us. It was super fabulous to see younger siblings dressed up as well.

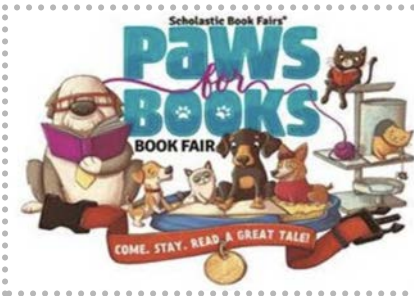


A big THANK YOU to all parents and carers who helped their children dress up as their favourite book characters. I loved all the costumes and it was great to see so many children who made their own costumes with your help. It was great to see so many children dress up to reflect their dreams for themselves - so many sports stars in the making. Some children also dressed as the person they admire - someone who achieved

their dreams.

My favourite costumes would have to be Jack and the beanstalk, the very hungry caterpillar, the yellow submarine, the giving tree, the white sheep, and the little dragon to name just a few.

St. Michael's Book Fair : Friday 26th August to Thursday 1st September



We look forward to welcoming 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 26th August.

Please don't worry if you are unable to come into school to make a purchase. We will be sharing photos of all the items for sale via **Facebook** and the **COMPASS Parent Portal** so please keep an eye out for that communication at the end of this week. You will be able to pay online at a dedicated Book Fair portal and your child will be able to pick up the books from school.

A reminder that we will be unable to accept cash payments for any purchases. Scholastic will provide us with an EFTPOS machine for payments at school.

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 children, could you please fill in this [form](#).



Premier's Reading Challenge 2022

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

Kinder : Jaibir Singh

Year 1 : Lucius Litchfield, Sharandeep Singh

Year 2 : Yagyata Arora

Year 3 : Vishnu Acharya

Year 5 : Leonidas Volvozidis

Year 6 : Isabella Dabit, Jade Thompson

Congratulations to all the children who have participated in and completed the PRC this year. All students who finished the challenge this year will receive a certificate from the Premier's office. These certificates will be sent to school in Term 4 and we will present them to the students once we receive them.

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

Happy Reading

Mrs Pinto

Librarian

ST. MICHAEL'S SPORTS NEWS

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday 26th August, students from St Michaels will be representing our school at the Zone Athletics Carnival. Students will have the opportunity to compete against other students within their age group across the zone in a number of track and field events. The carnival will be taking place at Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside.

Those students who successfully nominated in the high jump will also be competing with other successful students at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival which will be taking place on Friday 2nd September at Homebush.

The following students will be representing our school at the Zone Carnival. We wish them all the best of luck on Friday.

<i>Lucas Gec</i>	<i>Sam Kome</i>	<i>Elizabeth Toole</i>
<i>Romeo Lampart</i>	<i>Achok Mow</i>	<i>Sienna Cataldo</i>
<i>Grace Mow</i>	<i>Elora O'Neill</i>	<i>Dylan Babela</i>
<i>Nana Acheampong</i>	<i>Elijah Koopu</i>	<i>Marko Bukvic</i>
<i>Kurmal Shata</i>	<i>Noah Bajada</i>	<i>Carter O'Neill Raymond</i>
<i>Elihdan Arias</i>	<i>Adhieu Michael</i>	<i>Bryson Debono</i>
<i>Arok Michael</i>	<i>Aastha Patel</i>	<i>Enola Arima</i>
<i>Enje Sulaiman</i>	<i>Joshua Ghattas</i>	<i>Heath Warren</i>
<i>Jaiden Michalski</i>	<i>Nicholas Serra</i>	<i>Scott Toole</i>
<i>Sophie Ackroyd</i>	<i>Olivia Cousens</i>	<i>Ayak Mayen</i>
<i>Jeeta Smith</i>	<i>Nyidier Mow</i>	<i>Tina Geu</i>
<i>Mikaela Fenech</i>	<i>Samantha Ridout</i>	<i>Maisy Cyreszko</i>
<i>Manvick Brar</i>	<i>Delinda Thompson</i>	<i>Mikaele Kama</i>
<i>Jacinta Thompson</i>		

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

FROM YEAR 6

This term the students in Year 6 have been exercising their vocal chords and practising their public speaking skills for the 2022 Voice of Youth competition. From the in-class heats, eight students progressed to our school finals (Anna Belle Taktak, Ava Gebrael, Lewis Davies, Sarunitha Balakrishnan, Dayna Sheehan, Patrick Agon, Sophie Ackroyd and Keona Oquendo) where Mrs Veling and Mrs Fox were tasked with electing two of these champions to represent our school at the Blacktown Cluster Final. Patrick Agon '**Gender Equality**' and Ava Gebrael '**The Annoying Things Cats Do**' ultimately won their way through with some entertaining and thought provoking speeches. The runner up was Lewis Davies who spoke about '**Littering**'.

All of Year 6 travelled to support our finalists as they spoke at St Bernadette's in Lalor Park. The competition was tough, and this year we did not have anyone progress to the next level. However, our St. Michael's students were very respectful and represented the school admirably.

Year 6 Teachers

Miss Estepa, Mr Luckman, Miss Prested, Mrs Reaidi

