



2022 - Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education in Blacktown

Parent Newsletter Term 3 Week 2 2022

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

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

Welcome back to school and to a fabulous Term 3 at St Michael's. Across the school, the children have enjoyed a great first week meeting up with their friends and teachers, sharing their holiday news and establishing their learning routines for the term ahead.

It has been lovely to catch up with so many parents and to hear about special times spent during the holidays. The teachers have planned a great term of learning for the children and look forward to connecting with families.

I wish to thank all our community for the prayers and support provided after the passing of our student Nathan Saws. A sad but beautiful ceremony took place in the holidays with many of our staff, students and parents attending to celebrate the life of Nathan. Please keep in your prayers Nathan's mum Rania, dad Hani and his sister Joy who are struggling with their loss.

Once again COVID-19 has raised its head with the government worried about further infections spreading. Schools have been asked to restrict big gatherings for four weeks until things settle. We hope to reschedule our Grandparents Day celebration for later in the term when it is safer for our older community members to join us. The government is providing more RATs and these will be distributed to families once they arrive at school.

Thank you to the 76 parents who responded to the Tell Them from Me (TTFM) survey. This is the best response we have had in the past five years. I appreciate your responses and the positive and encouraging comments. We will continue to work with you on improving our communication, responding faster to requests and sharing book work on a regular basis. Please remember that you can ask for a meeting with your child's teacher or coordinator at any time if you have any concerns or questions. The wonderful staff at St. Michael's are here to work with you!

As we begin this new term,

We ask God to bless our school community and all who are a part of it:

Help us to give of our best in our learning and in our interactions.

May we follow the model of Nano Nagle and St Mary McKillop, who never saw a need without doing something about it.

Let us make the most of every day.

Help all of us to try hard, be kind and respectful and love one another through our actions.

We make this prayer in the name of your son, Jesus. Amen.

May God bless and keep you.

Meling

Mrs Sue Veling

Principal



DIARY DATES
Tuesday 26th July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Newsletter published 3:30 Yr 5 & Yr 6 Drama Group
Wednesday 27th July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten celebrating 101 days of school
Friday 29th July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 3 Girls and Boys Touch Footy Gala Day 2pm Whole School Assembly (Note new time)
Monday 1st August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grandparents Day celebration - postponed
Tuesday 2nd August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:30 Yr 5 & Yr 6 Drama Group
Monday 8th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feast of Mary Mackillop prayer
Friday 12th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm Whole School Assembly
Wednesday 17th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am ICAS English test Years 3-6
Monday 22nd August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Character Parade
Wednesday 24th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball Gala Day
Friday 26th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 30th August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am ICAS Mathematics test Years 3-6
Thursday 1st September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father's Day Stall
Friday 2nd September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7am Father's Day BBQ Breakfast and Prayer

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)

Term 4 - Tuesday 20th December 2022

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers,

Science Week

National Science Week is held between 13th -21st August. National Science Week is an annual festival that takes place in August each year. This celebration aims to increase the public understanding and appreciation of science, innovation, engineering and technology. To celebrate this event, each grade will be involved in a virtual science experience throughout the week.



ICAS

At St. Michael's the students are given the opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

These are **NOT** compulsory but provide an opportunity for your child to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. All students who participate will receive their individual results and a certificate. Our school will also receive a comprehensive report on the overall results of each assessment.

This year, students in Years 3-6 are able to participate in the Mathematics and English Assessments. Both assessments are completed online and must be completed at school. **Both assessments will take place before school in the School Library at 8am. It is important that all students participating in the assessments arrive at school by this time.**

The dates for the Assessments are:

Assessment Subject	Year Level	Sitting Date and Time	Cost
ICAS English	3 to 6	8am Wednesday 17th August 2022	\$19.25
ICAS Mathematics	3 to 6	8am Tuesday 30th August 2022	\$19.25

Registering and Payments via ICAS Parent System

If you would like your child to participate in either of the tests listed above, please visit the **online Parent Payment System** to make a direct payment to UNSW Global. The Parent Payment System is a simple and secure online payment service specifically for parents to purchase ICAS Assessments. **Assessment registrations and payments can not be accepted at school.**

To register your child and pay for assessments please visit:

The Parent Payment System: <https://shop.unswglobal.com.au/pages/pps> School Access Code: QVW887

Online registration and payment for both assessments **close Monday 1st August 2022. No late entries can be accepted after the closing date.**

Miss Rebecca Teulan
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to our Year 5 and Year 6 students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in August and September.



PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

*Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people,
so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.
Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation
as they listen to Your voice.
Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the
good work that You have begun in them.
As they receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit,
make each of them become an instrument of Your love.
Teach them to appreciate what is holy in others,
and to be patient with what they do not understand.
Deepen their faith in the Gospel
and help them to pass it on by their example.
We pray that You will continue to guide and sustain them.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Love One Another
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 first afternoon assembly will be this **Friday 29th July**. At the assembly we will celebrate the children who received learning awards. Names of award recipients will be listed in our next Parent Newsletter. Please come and join us.



**Parish Sacramental
Process 2022**

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 Confirmation is for students in Year 5 or above
who have received their First Eucharist. Enrolment Cut-Off Date: 26th June 2022.

PARENT/S ENCOUNTERS (3-Sessions PARENT/S ONLY)

Parent/s Encounter 1:
Tuesday 26th July 2022-7.00pm.
or
Thursday 28th July 2022-9.00am.
Parent/s Encounter 2:
Tuesday 2nd August 2022-7.00pm.
or
Thursday 4th August 2022 9.00am.
Parent/s Encounter 3:
Tuesday 9th August 2022 7.00pm.
or
Thursday 11th August 2022 9.00am.
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.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS (3 Sessions ~ PARENT/S & CANDIDATE/S)

Family Workshop 1:
Saturday 30th July 2022 - 4.00pm.
or
Sunday 31st July 2022 - 9.00am.
Family Workshop 2:
Saturday 6th August 2022- 4.00pm.
or
Sunday 7th August 2022- 9.00am.
Family Workshop 3:
Saturday 13th August 2022-4.00pm.
or
Sunday 14th August 2022-9.00am.
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.



Reconciliation before the Sacrament Tuesday 16th August OR Thursday 18th August 7.00pm St. Patrick's Church.

Confirmation Masses- Tuesday 30th August 7.00pm Mass & Thursday 1st September 7.00pm.
Sunday 4th September 10.00am. All Confirmation Masses will be celebrated at St Patrick's church.



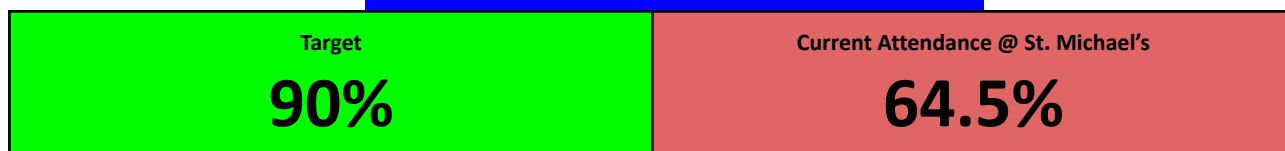
Lost Property - Label It

Our lost property is often overflowing. Items with names are returned. Items without names are regularly moved on.

Please ensure every item your child brings to school is labelled. Also please taken two minutes to check that your child's items are actually theirs as children can often pick up another child's jacket, hat etc.

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	 64.5%

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.

Scholastic Year	Sch Yr Attendance Level
K	 69.0%
1	 68.5%
2	 52.7%
3	 61.0%
4	 67.8%
5	 65.9%
6	 67.5%

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.

LATEST COVID-19 UPDATE [LINK](#)



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.

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 .*

**ENROLLING NOW
FOR KINDY 2023.**

Limited places remain
for Kindergarten to Yr 6
in 2022

ROAD SAFETY - BE BUS AWARE



BUS FLASHING LIGHTS

All motorists **MUST** slow down to 40km/h when BUS LIGHTS FLASH. Drivers should look out for children who are crossing the road or waiting to cross. Lights flash on buses to warn motorists that buses are picking up and dropping off children. By law, a driver must not overtake or pass a bus with flashing lights at more than 40km/h.

Lights begin to flash when the bus stops and the doors open, and they keep flashing for about 20 seconds after the doors close. Children are most at risk in the minutes after they get off the bus.

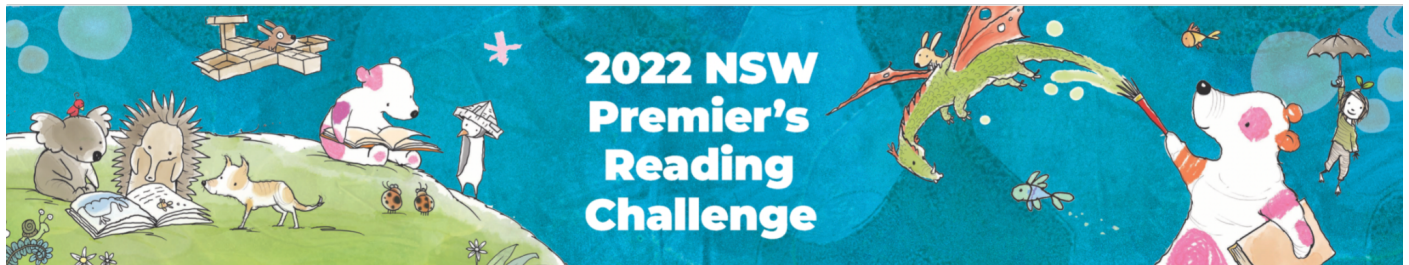
Young children are often unpredictable in their movements. They are still developing the skills that help them to judge the direction of sound and the speed and distance of vehicles. We know that because of their sheer size and mass, buses can cause severe outcomes for other road users in crashes.

Motorists can help reduce the risk of a crash and keep children safe by:

- Slowing down to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing
- Looking out for children crossing the road near bus stops, in school zones or along bus routes
- Giving way to buses when they merge back into traffic.

FROM THE LIBRARY

Premier's Reading Challenge 2022



These children have been busy reading in the holidays and have finished reading the required number of books for the PRC.

Kinder : George Layous, Spencer Thompson

Year 1 : Amelia Latimore

Year 2 : Keert Kaur

Year 3 : Ivnaaj Kaur

Year 4 : Jacinta Thompson

Year 5 : Manvick Brar

Year 6 : Delinda Thompson

The PRC finishes on Friday 19 August. Please do not leave it till the last day to complete your child/children's reading records. When your child/children finish the challenge please email me at stmichaelsblktlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au so that we can put their names in our newsletter to celebrate them.



Term 3 Events

Book Week : Week 6, 20 - 26 August.

Dress up parade : Monday 22 August.

Book Fair : Thursday 25 August to Wednesday 31 August.

Infants Book Week performance : Monday 5 September.

St. Michael's eLibrary

All students have free access to [Primary Explora](#). Students can access this database on any device from home or school to research passion projects. Students can also use it to do their research for their school projects and the database's handy citation tool makes it easy to cite their work.

Click on the image or link above, log-in using CEDP log-in details, and begin exploring and learning about various topics. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please contact me via email stmichaelsblktlibrary@parra.catholic.edu.au

Happy Reading


Mrs Pinto

Librarian

Research help

Use the Primary Explora database to help you find information for your research projects.

- ✦ Click on the image for direct access.
- ✦ Use the search bar at the top of the page to search for your topic using keywords.
- ✦ Click on an article to read it.
- ✦ Use the tools on the top right hand corner of the article to save it, cite it, or add it to a project folder.



You can also find the link to Research Help on the [eLibrary page](#).

Bookmark this page for future use.

ST. MICHAEL'S SPORTS NEWS

NETBALL GALA DAY TRIAL SCHEDULE

This term, St Michael's has entered 7 teams in the Netball Gala Day, which will take place on Wednesday 24th August, 2022 (Week 6, Term 3). Students received a permission to trial note last week and are required to return the note signed in order to try out for a team.

Below is the schedule for the Netball Gala Day trials. Please note that your child belongs to the age group that they have either turned this year or are going to turn this year. For example: **A child born in 2014 will be 8 years old this year.**

DATE	AGE GROUP
Thursday 28th July (W2 Recess)	Senior Boys (11 & 12 years old)
Friday 29th July (W2 Lunch)	9 year old girls
Monday 1st August (W3 Lunch)	10 year old girls
Tuesday 2nd August (W3 Lunch)	8 year old girls
Wednesday 3rd August (W3 Lunch)	11 year old girls
Thursday 4th August (W3 Recess)	Junior Boys (8,9 & 10 years old)
Friday 5th August (W3 Lunch)	12 year old girls

This schedule may be subject to change with minimal notice due to wet weather or unforeseen circumstances. If this does happen, students will be informed verbally and parents will be notified. **Students are asked to come dressed in sports uniform on their day if they have permission to trial.**

STAGE 3 TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY

On Friday 29th July, students in Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) will be representing St Michael's in the Touch Football Gala Day. We wish the following students the best of luck on the day:

STAGE 3 BOYS	STAGE 3 GIRLS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scott Toole 2. Preston Young 3. Nicholas Serra 4. Christian Yazbeck 5. Dominic Azar 6. Elijah Koopu 7. Noah Bajada 8. Joseph Perry 9. Kellan Koong 10. Alex Moggridge 11. Elie Saba 12. Carter O'Neill Raymond 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Claire de Vos 2. Mila Stribl 3. Elizabeth Toole 4. Thalia Yazbeck 5. Delinda Thompson 6. Jade Thompson 7. Maisy Cyreszko 8. Gianna Tabone 9. Rihanna Abuganaba 10. Julie Aboka

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 WELCOMES YOU



ABOUT US

FUN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY,
ALL-INCLUSIVE FOR BOYS,
GIRLS AND ADULTS OF ALL
ABILITIES

Competition commences in October.
Fees include a uniform up to a 15yo.




CONTACT US

Website
revolutionise.com.au/granthameagles/

Email
infoeaglessoftballclub@gmail.com

Phone
0422 665 336




SOFTBALL - LIVE IT, LOVE IT,
PLAY IT!

Get in touch today!



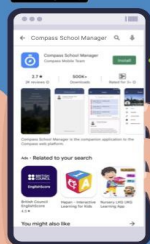
Download the Compass App for Parent Portal



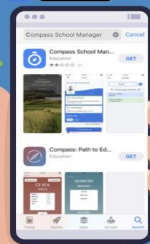
1 Search for Compass School Manager app

GET IT ON
Google Play

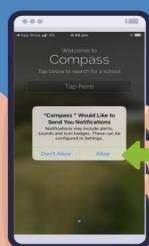
Download on the
App Store



2 Install / Get



3 Using details from your parent login letter, log in to the parent portal for the first time



Allow
notifications

4

Download the Compass App for Parent Portal



5 Search and select your school name



6 Enter your username and password



Confirm your details
and create a new
password

Choose this if you forget
your password

