Dear Parents

Summer Uniform

With the warmer weather here already the children may wear their full summer uniform.

Thank you to the parents who support the school uniform policy and encourage their children to wear their uniform with pride. I am sure that the children all understand the importance of following school rules in the same way that they respect the rules for the correct uniform when they are part of a cricket, soccer, netball or football team.

Just a reminder for those few children who are wearing the wrong joggers. The school policy stipulates that they are to be predominantly white. White joggers are available from various variety stores at very reasonable prices, from as low as $12. A reminder also to our Year 6 students that the wearing of the Year 6 T-shirt, with the printed names of the students, is a privilege. Year 6 must wear their proper joggers in order to take part in this privilege. We very much value the important role Year 6 play as role models to the rest of the school.

Thank you P&F

A special thank you to our wonderful P&F. This term we have had two huge celebrations, one for Grandparents’ Day and one for Father’s Day. The number of people who attended these celebrations was incredible. What was most impressive, however, was the way the P&F catered for the morning teas. Their professionalism in managing hundreds of people with a beautiful morning tea was outstanding. Thank you to all who were involved. Your generous support is very much appreciated.

Reflection

Human beings are blessed with being able to break from the shackles of inappropriate beliefs and alter their attitudes of mind. Our attitudes not only determine how we choose to regard ourselves, but how other human beings will treat us. Our attitudes and the choices that we make today will be our lives tomorrow, for our reactions can take us forward or take us down.

A wise person, probably a gardener, tells us that, “some people grumble because roses have thorns; I am thankful that the thorns have roses.” Children are natural mimics; they learn much about life from watching their parents.

“When I saw you hang up my first painting on the refrigerator, I wanted to paint you another one.
When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw you feed a stray cat and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.
When you thought I wasn’t looking I felt you kiss me goodnight and I knew I was loved.
When you thought I wasn’t looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.
When you thought I wasn’t looking, I heard you say a prayer and I believed there was a God that I could always talk to.”

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Children’s Liturgy will be on this Sunday 8th September during the 10 am Mass. All primary aged children are warmly invited to attend.

Kinder and Year 5 Buddy Mass
Kindergarten and Year 5 will celebrate Mass together on Friday 6th September at 12.00 pm in the Church. All family members are invited to attend.

Year 1 and Year 6 Buddy Mass
Years 1 and 6 will celebrate Mass together on Friday 13th September at 10.15 am in the Church. All family members are invited to attend.

Diocesan Review of Religious Education
Bishop Anthony Fisher OP has asked the Catholic Education Office, in association with academic partners the University of Notre Dame Australia, to take a close look at Religious Education curriculum, resourcing and teacher formation. Your participation in this process is vital. A key part of the data gathering process will be through an online questionnaire. The questionnaires are for students from Years 5 & 6 and Years 9 & 11; teachers, Religious Education coordinators, principals, alumni, parents and clergy. There is a different questionnaire for each group. Religious Education lessons will also be observed in some schools. An information letter went home this week to all parents via email or hard copy format. The survey period will run from the 2nd September to the 20th September. We appreciate your support in this matter.

St Michael’s Feast Day End of Term Mass
Our whole school End of Term Mass to celebrate the feast day of St Michael will be held on Friday 20th September at 10.15 am in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

Ordination to the Priesthood of John Paul Escarlan: 13 September
Bishop Anthony Fisher OP will ordain John Paul Escarlan a priest for the Diocese of Parramatta at 7.30 pm in St Patrick’s Cathedral. Everyone is welcome—plenty of parking. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 7 September: Tel (02) 9654 2260, johnpaul.escarlan@yahoo.com.au

Fr John Paul Escarlan’s First Mass: 14 September
Fr John Paul Escarlan will celebrate his First Mass for the Gift of the Priesthood at 11 am at St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, 28 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst. Everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 7 September,
Tel (02) 9654 2260, johnpaul.escarlan@yahoo.com.au

SCHOOL FEES
Thank you to the families who have paid this term’s fees. School fees are now overdue. Please settle your school fees as soon as possible or contact Mrs Linda Borsato in the school office on 9639 0518.
Application for Leave for Students taking leave during the School Year

Parent Information

This year there are new Government guidelines for schools to follow when marking the attendance registers (class rolls).

These new guidelines require parents who are taking their children on holidays or other leave, during the school terms, to complete a request for 'Exemption from School Attendance' form.

These new guidelines also cover employment in entertainment industry, and participation in elite sporting events for short periods of time (i.e. for one or two days and at short notice).

These forms must be completed before taking your holiday or leave. The School Principal can only approve up to 50 school days leave. Longer periods need the approval of the Director of Schools Parramatta and the Catholic Education Commission.

Once these forms (one for each child) have been completed and returned, you will then be issued with a certificate allowing the exemption from school. This certificate needs to be kept with you while on holidays/leave in case you are requested to present it. Holidays of more than 20 days require a copy of all travel documents as well.

The forms are available on our website and at the school office for you to collect. Please complete and return the Application for Exemption from School Form as soon as possible and return before leaving for your holiday.

Thank you for assistance in the matter and if you have any further questions please contact the school office.

Choir Performance

The choir will be singing a few songs at Assembly on Friday September 6 (Week 8). Any parents who would like to come along are more than welcome.

Lyndall Parker
Music Teacher

REMINDER

All soccer balls, netballs, basketballs etc MUST be carried to and from school in a bag (either school bag or other bag) for safety reasons.

They should not be played with before and after school.

UNIFORM SHOP

Thursday 12th September, 8.30-9.30 am

SUMMER UNIFORM PRICE LIST—FORM

Available on our website at the following location: http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes

Then, click on

- Whole School Notes (2)
- Uniform Shop Order Form - Summer

Price list and order forms for Summer school uniforms (2013-2014)

Newsletter distribution

We have been experiencing a few bounce backs from some email accounts due to service providers classifying our address as spam or inboxes being full.

Please check that you have added stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au to your contacts list.

Service providers also sometimes send emails to the junk or deleted items folder.

Please contact the office if you experience non-delivery.

STAR CORNER

Congratulations to Harrison Wilton who saved his pocket money to buy a bale of hay as part of the Buy a Bale campaign, which helps farming families in drought-stricken areas get the feed they need to keep their herds alive. Harrison had been saving up to buy a new game but decided to spend his money on helping the farmers instead, after watching and listening to a TV story on the plight of the farmers. Harrison said “It felt good to help them and was worth not having the game.” Well done on your generosity, leadership and spirit of community! (www.buyabale.com.au)

Congratulations to Michael Blinman who has been selected to play in the MacKillop Boys Cricket Team. Michael is now one of the team members chosen from approximately 300 cricket teams who compete to get to the next level of competition. Well done on this great achievement!

Congratulations to the Under 9 St Michaels / Our Lady of Lourdes Rugby League team who won their Grand Final in the Parramatta Catholic Convents Association competition. The Baulkham Hills Brumbies won their hard fought Grand Final against St Gertrude’s Smithfield, coming from behind to win 32 – 12. Well done to our St Michael’s boys Charlie Horner and Caleb Woods who both had great games.
NEWS FROM 6S CLASSROOM

Maths Learning in 6S

Over the past few weeks 6S have been learning about fractions, decimals, area, perimeter, directions, factors, multiplication and shapes. As part of the EMU maths program, we are required to participate in many different activities such as number busting and open-ended questions. For a warm up, 6S does a number busting or array busting problem, to warm up our minds for the open-ended question that comes afterwards. At the end of all this, we are required to reflect on what we have done during the open-ended tasks. One of the open-ended tasks we completed over the last week was: Numbers multiplied together equal 4570. What are the possibilities? We have special questions for this. 6S always loves to do maths and to train our minds in Mathematics.

CHILDREN’S LYING

We are seeking 8-10 year-old children to participate in a 30-minute study about truth and lying at Macquarie University.

Children will complete a Healthy Eating Lesson during which a researcher may commit a minor transgression. Children will then be interviewed about the lesson.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY, SATURDAY & AFTER-SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Families will receive $20 for their time

Please contact Rhiannon Fogliati
rhiannon.fogliati@mq.edu.au
02 9859 8075
POLICY: UNIFORMS

Rationale
At St Michael’s school staff and parents support the concept that a uniform creates a sense of belonging, assists in the development of pride in the school and self, prevents a sub culture of envy from forming, and helps to unite the school body into a community.

Aims
- To provide parents and children with guidelines on what is appropriate to wear to school.
- To eliminate the sections of dress which are not uniform.
- To ensure through communication that all who wear the uniform or who provide the uniform understand what is uniform.

Implementation
- Address the areas of non-uniform which appear to create problems.
- The uniform hat is to be the St Michael’s hat.
- Hair decorations, ribbons and ‘scrunchies’ to be navy.
- Hair styles and cuts appropriate for primary school children to be encouraged.
- Children’s hair should be its natural colour (no rinses, streaks, dyeing or foils).
- Hair that is shoulder length should be tied back.
- Hair should not display carvings or lines.
- Jewellery which is either inappropriate or valuable should not be worn to school. Children are permitted to wear 1 pair of plain studs or small sleepers (no big hoops). This excludes watches and appropriate religious symbols.
- Sport t-shirts to be worn on sports days by all children with the exception of Year 6 who may wear their name shirts.
- Representative t-shirts are issued on the day of use and then returned to school. A representative t-shirt is not part of the daily uniform.
- Black leather school shoes (not boots) to be worn with the formal school uniform. The shoes are to be worn to and from school.
- Only the St Michael’s school jacket and jumper are to be worn.
- Only the St Michael’s school navy tracksuit pants are to be worn.
- Predominantly white track shoes/joggers to be worn with the sports uniform.
- Random regular uniform inspections to be held.
- Times for changing from winter to summer and from summer to winter uniform to be published in the newsletter.
- Policy published to parents, children, staff.
- The school bag is a compulsory part of the school uniform.
- Policy to be evaluated annually.

POLICY UPDATE: Anti-Racism

Rationale
The Commonwealth Racial Discrimination Act aims to ensure that people living in Australia can enjoy their human rights and freedoms in full equality. The RDA applies to everyone in Australia including businesses, schools, all areas of society and Government.

The Commonwealth Racial Hatred Act of 1995 extends the coverage of the Racial Discrimination Act to allow people to complain about racially offensive or abusive behaviour. The goals and practices outlined in this policy statement support a whole school approach to values education as expressed in the school mission statement.

Aims:
We believe that:
- Every child has a right to learn and feel safe, secure, valued and respected
- Parents and teachers are partners
- The multicultural nature of our school is something to be celebrated
- In line with our Mission Statement, racism is inconsistent with the ethos of St Michael’s Baulkham Hills.
- In the school situation, respect, tolerance and acceptance are essential qualities that must be instilled into students of all ages.
- The successful integration into society of people from diverse backgrounds and beliefs can be facilitated if schools engage in suitable educational and awareness raising activities.
- It is the duty of all members of the school community to ensure that all forms of racism are non-existent at St Michael’s Baulkham Hills.

Implementation:
- Ensure that all staff members are aware of the existence of the legislation.
- Encourage all staff to be vigilant and to deal with any incidents of racism immediately.
- Through Sharing Our Story, we educate our students to be loving and accepting people, using Jesus as our role model.
- Consult a member of the Leadership Team regarding any incidents of racism.
- Put in place follow-up procedures to ensure that the situation has been rectified.
- Welcome suggestions from any member of the school community as to how our students can continue to enjoy a racist free environment.
- Follow up incidents of racism on a regular basis for as long as necessary.
- Staff are encouraged to make themselves familiar with it, especially the sections dealing with System and legislative requirements
- Students are regularly reminded of the classroom and playground pointers both in class and at whole school assemblies.
- Remind staff at regular intervals to deal firmly and fairly with all forms of inappropriate student behaviour at the school.
- The full support of each and every member of the leadership team is available to any staff member who is dealing with any form of racism within the school.
- Be open to professional development opportunities when they arise.
- Purchase any necessary resources to support classroom lessons.
- Annually review and improve the Anti Racism Policy.
St. Michael's Primary School, Baulkham Hills

Twilight Fair
Friday 11th October 2013

www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com

We need help!

The Twilight Fair will be our biggest fundraiser this year. An event this big needs lots of hands to make it work. You know the saying –

Many hands make light work!

Volunteering can be hectic but also a lot of fun! Helping out is a great way to meet new people and it is the efforts of us all that will make our Twilight Fair successful. We thank everyone for their contribution.

Name:________________________ Mobile Number:_____________________

Contact Email:________________________

Child’s Name:________________________ Class:________________________

On the day of the Fair

- Setting Up 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- Setting Up 2.30pm - 3.30pm
- During the Fair 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- During the Fair 4.30pm - 5.30pm
- During the Fair 5.30pm - 6.30pm
- During the Fair 6.30pm - 7.30pm
- During the Fair 7.30pm - 8.30pm
- During the Fair 8.30pm - 9.30pm
- Packing Up 9.15pm - 10.30pm

Volunteers on the day of the Fair will be managed by our dedicated Volunteers Coordinator: Vaughan Roles 0425 211 038 volunteers@pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com

He will be in contact with you in due course about what tasks you may be able to assist with on the day and he will be your contact person on the day itself.

Prior to the Fair

- I am available to assist prior to the day. The call for helpers prior to the day will go out when needed.

Examples of what could be required: delivering flyers into letterboxes in your neighbourhood, wrapping prizes, sorting items for sale for a stall etc. Some tasks could be taking place during school hours or possibly at home, depending on the task.

A P&F Committee member will be in touch with you when the time arises.

Comments about your availability?
________________________
________________________
________________________

Please return this form to the school office in an envelope marked “Twilight Fair - Attn. Vaughan Roles” or email to Vaughan volunteers@pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com

This form is also available on our website (address above) on the Volunteers page.

On submitting this form, you are under no obligation should something arise and you are no longer able to assist. Should that happen, please let us know as soon as possible. We appreciate your help!
**NEWS**

**Helpers Wanted!**

**Tuesday 10th Sept**

**SCHOOL HALL**

**DURING SCHOOL HOURS**

We are making baskets for the Basket Stall at the Twilight Fair. We need lots of helpers to create these baskets, so if you have an hour or two, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Lyndall Pascoe pascoelm@gmail.com or Linda Jurcevic on 0431 087 444

**BASKETS NEEDED!**

**Any shape or size!**

If you have any unused baskets at home, bring them in! We can use them for the Fair’s Basket Stall.

**IMPORTANT!**

All Twilight Fair Coordinators, there will be a meeting on Tuesday 17th September at School at 7pm

**TOMBOLA BRING IN DAY COMING SOON!**

We’re collecting bottles, all kinds. More information soon.

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**5 WEEKS TO GO UNTIL THE TWILIGHT FAIR!**

**CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!**

[www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com](http://www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com)

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**2 weeks left to pre-purchase the Rides Arm Bands at $25 ea**

Pre-sale available STRICTLY Mon 26th August until Fri 20th September at $25.00 each. Any enquiries can be directed to Suzanne O’Brien at dsobrien@bigpond.net.au

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**This is the LAST week for Second Hand Books and Clothes!**

If you want to do a drop off at school it will be open Sunday 6th September between the hours of 4-5 otherwise dropoffs can be done during school hours.

Small gate in car park will be open. You can drop items off in the classroom closest to the carpark on the Year 2 verandah.

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ST MICHAEL’S NETBALL CLUB 2014 SEASON

Is your child interested in becoming a part of a sporting team? Did you know that St Michael’s Netball Club is open to all players. You do not need to attend St Michael’s Primary School to join!

All training is held at Crestwood netball courts. We have positions available for players 7 years and up.

New Member Registration day is Thursday 19th Sept 2013 2 pm—5 pm (in Downey Room – St Michael’s Parish Car park)

Visit our website at: www.stmichaelsnetballclub.asn.au for more information or contact our Club Registrar – Rebecca Vella on 0418 244 169.

ST MICHAEL’S NETBALL CLUB 2014 SEASON

MODIFIED TENNIS HAS COME TO CRESTWOOD COURTS

Modified tennis balls and court
2 players per coach 30 min lessons

Private lessons
Groups: 5 to 6 yrs; 6 to 10 yrs; 9 to 11 yrs

Contact: Mark Blok 0407 733 853, 9686 8007 or 0405 579 879

WE ALSO COACH

Teenagers: All levels
Adults: Beginner to Advanced

CRESTWOOD RESERVE Peel Road Baulkham Hills

This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au