Dear Parents

Kindergarten Parent Information Evening—Monday 11th November 2013

Beginning school is an enormous milestone in any child’s life. It impacts not only on the child, but also on the entire family. Sensitive planning and sound structures can assist in alleviating fears and provide strong foundations for a happy and successful educational journey.

It is with great excitement that the parents of our 2014 Kindergarten students prepare for their child’s orientation to formal schooling. Education isn’t something that only occurs in the classroom. Parents play the most important role in helping their children learn. By working in partnership with teachers, parents can make a real difference to their child’s experience of school. I am reminded of the following prayer that expresses the importance of the partnership between the school and our parents.

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there
The clay they used was a young child’s mind
And they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher and the tools that were used
Were books and music and art
One was a parent with a guiding hand.
And a gentle loving heart.

Day after day the teacher toiled
With a touch that was deft and sure
While the parent laboured side by side
And polished and smoothed it o’er.

And when at last their task was done
They were proud of what they had wrought
For the things they had moulded into the child
Could neither be sold or bought.

And each agreed that they would have failed
If they had worked alone
For behind the parent stood the school.
And behind the teacher, the home.

Our partnership will be an important one, as we nurture your child’s self esteem, individuality and human excellence in leading towards a conviction of our ever loving God.

A parent information evening will be held for our 2014 Kinder parents in the school hall on Monday 11th November at 7.00 pm. Our children will participate in an orientation program on:

- Tuesday 12 November  
  Group 1—9.30-11.30 am  
  Group 2—12.30-2.30 pm

- Thursday 14 November  
  Group 2—9.30-11.30 am  
  Group 1—12.30-2.30 pm

We look forward to working in partnership with you as your child begins their learning journey at St Michael’s.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Mako
November Masses
November is traditionally the month in which we remember our deceased family members and friends. If you would like to have those who have gone before us remembered in all Masses during November, could you please write their names on an envelope or piece of paper and place it on either of the collection plates or give it to Fr. Mick. All names will be typed up and placed on the altar for the duration of November. There is no need to make a monetary contribution for these remembrance Masses.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Children’s Liturgy will be on this Sunday 10th November during the 10 am Mass. All primary aged children are warmly invited to attend.

After 10 (On Sunday after 10 am Mass)
After 10 happens straight after 10 am Mass. It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, have a good cuppa and catch up with others. Hope to see you all there!

Year 2—Non-Eucharistic Liturgy
Year 2 will gather as a grade in the Church for a Non-Eucharistic liturgy on Friday 8 November at 10.15 am. All welcome.

Junior Elevate Dates—Term 4
Scheduled dates this term: 8 November, 22 November, 6 December, 20 December.

Remembrance Day 2013
Monday, 11 November—Remembrance Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy—10.15 am in the Church.

In preparation for our Remembrance Day Ceremony, we would like to invite the children to bring in any war service medals their families may have in honour of the brave Australians who fought for our protection to bring peace to our World. We would like to include them in our Remembrance Day Liturgy. If you would like your son/daughter to bring in some Service Medals please complete the slip on this page and return to the school office.

Faith at the Fiddler - 21st November
Special guest Bishop Anthony Fisher OP - Reframing the debate on ‘same-sex marriage’. Faith at the Fiddler is a forum for young people to gather together to discuss issues of faith and spirituality. From 5pm-7pm at The Greenway Room at the Mean Fiddler, cnr Commercial & Windsor Rds, Rouse Hill. An initiative of the Diocese of Parramatta and Catholic Education, Parramatta. Details: Linda Ducksbury tel (02) 9840 5743,linda.ducksbury@parrra.catholic.edu.au

Midnight Mass Choir
The parish is looking for anyone who would like to be involved in the Midnight Mass Choir. Whether you are a trained singer, would like to have a part in the celebration or simply want to have a bit of fun! All the music is traditional and very simple. Rehearsals will be held each Monday evening in the Church, commencing 25 November at 7.30pm. For any questions, please call Iain Bylsma on 0414 266483. All welcome!

Vincent De Paul Society—Christmas 2013 Hamper Appeal
The conference will again provide Christmas hampers to needy families we assisted during the past year. Including a reduced number of families in St Michael’s Family Centre. Profiles of the families will be displayed in the foyer of the church over the next two weeks. Your generous support for the appeal will be gratefully appreciated.

David Ison
Religious Education Coordinator

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM
The social skill for Week 5 of Term 4 is:

THOUGHTFULNESS
Being at all times considerate and kind to others.

Student of the Week
Term 4 Week 4

KB Mitchell O’Brien 3F Lauren Malysiak
KIH Mitchell Essex 3RUGG Emma Hallam
KR Mary Boutros 4C Jamie Marshall
KS Holly Martin 4G Anneliese van Gestel
1FM Audrey Velez 4RB Jessica Grove
1K Liam Moore 4VG Jonah Sailago
1Q Elizabeth Paton 5C Jada Susas
1R Joshvin Prakash 5M Emma Hyem
2A Mitchell Thomson 5OC Sara Angseeing
2BT Mia Cox 5S Riley Brown
2G Emily Robson 6DD Charlle Issa
2R Stuart Small 6F Tom Watson
3J Nicola Kasto 6ID Amy Hasarari
3M Jacynth Ondethu 6S Breeanna Clarkson
3N Hayden O’Brien

SCHOOL BANKING
The Commbank has advised that the current grey tokens will not be valid in 2014. If you are holding onto 10 or more tokens, now is the time to send them in for redemption. Commbank will only allow one redemption of the grey tokens per person in early 2014.

Thank you for your cooperation

Kim and Tracy
Banking Co-ordinators

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY
I will be bringing in Service Medals for the Remembrance Day Ceremony on Remembrance Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy—10.15 am in the Church.

Name: ______________________________________
Class: ____________________________
### SCHOOL GATES

For the continuing safety of our children, please note that the gate at the back path and the side gates are locked at 9 am each morning including Fridays.

Entry and exit to the school is via the main gate in Chapel Lane.

If you are visiting the school for Assemblies or Mass please use the main gate.

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### Neighbourhood Courtesy

Local residents down the back path in Coolock Street have voiced concerns that many of the children of an afternoon appear to be un supervised. The children have been playing on front lawns and down driveways, (sometimes even wandering into home owners’ garages), balancing on retaining walls, sitting and jumping off brick letterboxes. There has also been instances of children hanging off palm trees and damaging property.

Police have also had to be called due to parents blocking the driveways and double parking to pick up children and driving in an unsafe manner out of the area.

Please respect ALL properties neighbouring the school and ensure your children remain only on the council nature strip, are well supervised and safe at all times.

Please ensure that your parking does not adversely affect our local neighbours and the safety of everyone.

**Slow and Go area**—Please do not park on the roundabout in the carpark or block the entry or exit of the Slow and Go area in the afternoon.

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### UNIFORM SHOP

**Thursday 14th November, 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

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### Band Tour Report

**What a wonderful day!** I am so proud of the 28 young musicians who represented St Michael's Catholic Primary School on Wednesday. They were set the task of demonstrating a challenging repertoire to music programs that are still in the developing stages. We had 3 Teaching Services Australia Staff members, Steve Lavis, Geoff Wilson and myself. Mrs Woodroffe also accompanied us.

We visited two schools, Bethany Catholic Primary School and Kenthurst Public School. During the concerts, our band members mentored and guided those students who have never played our pieces. They all participated willingly and with a sense of leadership that shone through the entire day.

The St Michael's students not only played their instruments with confidence and musicality but they also gelled together as a team when it came time to unpacking the coach, setting-up our band stand and re-packaging the coach 3 times! Not once did I have to remind the students about the importance of the day.

It was my privilege to accompany the Performance Band of St Michael's 2013 who have worked hard all year. I would like to thank Mrs Maka and Mrs Knispel for being so supportive of the music program.

Lucia Bichara

Band Director

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 8 November</td>
<td>Year 2 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy—10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infants Sport Fun Day—9.30 am—1.00 pm—Kindergarten and Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 11 November</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy—10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten 2014 Parent Night—7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 12 November</td>
<td>Kindergarten Orientation: Group 1—9.30-11.30 am Group 2—12.30-2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 13 November</td>
<td>Waste Free Food Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 14 November</td>
<td>Kindergarten Orientation: Group 1—9.30-11.30 am Group 2—12.30-2.30 pm</td>
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<td>Fri 15 November</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22 November</td>
<td>Year 4 Eucharistic Liturgy—10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 25 November—Fri 6 December</td>
<td>School swimming program—Years 1, 2 and 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 2 December</td>
<td>P&amp;F Annual General Meeting—7 pm</td>
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<td>Mon 2 December—Thu 5 December</td>
<td>World of Maths Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 11 December</td>
<td>SWIMMING CARNIVAL—WAVES, BAULKHAM HILLS (CONCLUDES 2.15 PM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 12 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Awards Ceremony—6.15 pm in the Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Mass—7.30 pm in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 17 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Aquatic Centre Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18 December</td>
<td>Whole School End of Year Mass—10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 19 December—Fri 20 December</td>
<td>Staff Development Days—Pupil Free Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014—Date changes</td>
<td>Staff Development Day—Pupil Free Day—MAI Testing Years 1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 28 January</td>
<td>Staff Development Day—Pupil Free Day—MAI Testing Years 1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 January</td>
<td>Staff Development Day—Pupil Free Day—MAI Testing Years 1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 30 January</td>
<td>Years 1-6 commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31 January</td>
<td>Kindergarten commence</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In 6ID this week, we have been learning about how ordinary kids can make a difference in the world. We have been coming up with plans on how we can make a difference in different aspects of life. Our class has learnt how everyone can make a difference no matter what your age.

Andrew Malsysik: The areas that we can make a difference in are: Social, Environmental, Raising Awareness and animals. The plan Christopher and I came up with was to start an anti-bullying program to help kids at our school to face up to their bullies.

Christopher Kharoufeh: We had to come up with a plan and use the SWOT thinking system that consists of strengths (what are the good things), weaknesses (what are the not-so-good-things), opportunities (ways to improve) and threats (things that can stop the plan from working).

Elisa Zarrillo: This term in HSIE we are learning about how not just adults but children can make a difference in our world today. We had to make a plan about how to change the world and my plan was to raise awareness about bullying and to bring about an end to bullying forever or at least a while!

Thank you to the families who have paid their school fees for the year. If you are experiencing difficulties in finalising payment, please contact Mrs Linda Borsato in the school office on 9639 0518 as soon as possible.

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta will be welcoming future Mercy Girls starting Year 7 in 2014 to the Orientation day on Friday 15 November.

Open Morning Tour for this year on Monday, November 11, 2013.

The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Discover OLMC Parramatta

Date: December 13-15
Cost: $220
Venue: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, (near Campbelltown)

Experience a personal encounter with Christ through contemplation of the writings of the Carmelite saints. Presented by Fr Paul Mauder, OCD.

THE KING ANNUAL PETE & FOOD FAIR

Friday 22nd November, 2013
3:00 to 9:00pm
2 Statham Avenue, North Rocks

**Grill up with Kids**

*Great value ride bands available for unlimited rides*

Rides for all ages**

BBQ, Hot Chips, Hot Corns, Cafe, Lebanese Food, Pizza & Pastries*

Christ’s Coming in Grace

SPORTS NEWS

The Mark Taylor Shield Cricket team played their semi-final last week against Trinity, Kemps Creek. We batted first and finished our 30 overs with a strong score of 6/123. Major contributors were Jack Holliday and Tom Watson, both had to retire when they passed 30 runs, and Liam McCallum with his late innings hitting.

We started defending the runs well with 3 quick wickets, Connor Shelley was involved in them all. All of a sudden Trinity started hitting the runs. After 15 overs they had about 80 runs, 25 more than we had at the same time. The boys rallied though and took some quick wickets—at one stage Liam had 3/3.

We took 9 wickets and Trinity still had 25 runs to score but this meant that their retired batter came back to the crease. After two dropped catches the tension was high, both on the pitch and with the spectators. Finally though a great captain’s catch was taken by Jack and victory went to St Michael’s.

The team now progress to the grand final on the 2nd December where Mark Taylor (ex-Australian Cricket Captain) will umpire the game. A great effort by all the boys to make it this far, the first team to do so in the last 8 years. All the best in the final—win, lose or draw you have done our school proud.

Congratulations to Michael Blinnmann, Liam McCallum and Jarrod French who have all been selected in the 2014 Parramatta Diocesan Cricket team, they now progress to the combined Parramatta, Sydney Wollongong trial next week.

Meanwhile best of luck to Michael who is still this week playing for the 2013 Mackillop Cricket Team at the NSWPSSA competition. From this competition/trial the 2013 NSWPSSA will be selected. More news next week.

Mr Steve Kovelis
Sports Coordinator

This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: www.stmichaelsbhillcatholic.edu.au
St Michael’s will be participating in a Waste-Free Lunch Day on **Wednesday 13th November** again this year. All students have been asked to bring recess and lunch that include as many items as possible that can be eaten, reused, recycled, or composted and as few items as possible that must be thrown away. There will be no bins provided on this day. Any throw away items must be taken back home.

You can help your child pack his or her waste-free lunch by including only what your child can eat, using reusable containers, or buying non-perishable foods in bulk. In planning your child’s waste-free lunch, remember to pack any items that need refrigeration with a reusable ice pack to keep the items fresh.

Last year many people participated and there was a huge improvement from the year before. However, we still found a lot of rubbish on our playgrounds. Let’s see if we can make a difference to our environment this year by ensuring NO packets are left on the floor or thrown in our bins.

**Waste-Free Lunch Tips:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Include:</th>
<th>Don’t Include:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandwiches in reusable containers.</td>
<td>Individually wrapped snacks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whole fruits without packaging.</td>
<td>Plastic bags that are not reusable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinks in containers that can be</td>
<td>Disposable forks and spoons</td>
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<tr>
<td>reused, such as a thermos or water</td>
<td>Straws</td>
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<tr>
<td>bottle</td>
<td>Juice boxes or bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snacks purchased in bulk and</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>brought in reusable containers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reusable ice packs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A wash rag or cloth napkin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

And don’t stop after just one day of packing waste-free! Pack your child a waste-free lunch every day and pack your own waste-free lunch for work.

Thank you for your support, and please help our school make Wednesday 13th November and every day a waste-free lunch day!

Lucy Messina
Leader of Learning
Our Sponsors from the Fair!

Give your support to the businesses that supported our school!

JIN YAN ASIAN CUISINE
www.jinyan.com.au

Castle Hill RSL Club,
77 Castle St. Castle Hill 2154
Ph: 8858 4848
E: jinyan@castlehillrsl.com.au

Carl Presley totally rocked our Twilight Fair! What a fantastic show!
Carl sounds brilliantly like the King of Rock 'n' Roll himself and dressed in a showcase of original suits direct from Las Vegas. If you are looking to shake up your birthday, wedding, or special function with some colour, fun and laughs, contact Carl Presley & have the audience screaming for more.

Euphoria Skin Clinic
www.euphoriaskinclinic.com.au Ph: 8677 1565
97 Cecil Ave, Castle Hill NSW 2154

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www.cafelighting.com.au Ph: 9756 0863
1048 Canley Vale Road Wetherill Park NSW 2164
Stunning lighting, furniture, mirror & wall art and decorator items.

Kennards Hire
www.kennards.com.au Ph: 9624 8555
Cnr Old Windsor & Powers Rd. Seven Hills NSW 2147
Fast delivery of equipment - what you need, when you need it!
At the Annual General Meeting all positions in the P&F are vacated including all Executive positions and a new Committee is voted in. If you are interested in a more active role in your child’s school, join the P&F, where many long standing friendships have been made whilst making a real difference to the school.

Survey

We have a survey on our web site, please take a look. About 5-10 min of your time. It would give us valuable feedback on 2013 and a view of what you’d like to see in 2014. It’s on our web site below, under the “Survey” tab. 100% anonymous. Thank you!

www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com

Over the next few weeks, our Twilight Fair sponsors will be distributing a brochure or a flyer into the school note pouches as a part of their generous sponsorship of our school. Keep an eye out and support the businesses that supported our school.

More Sponsors from the Twilight Fair

Give your support to the businesses that supported our school!

Silver Sponsor

Nads laser clinic
Hair Removal Specialists
www.nadsclinic.com.au
Ph: 9634 8621
Shop 517, Castle Towers Shopping Centre
6-14 Castle St, Castle Hill NSW 2154

Silver Sponsor

Waves Fitness & Aquatic Centre
44 Mileham Ave
Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
www.wavesfitnessandaquatic.com.au
Ph: 9639 6133