Dear Parents

In bringing down the federal Budget 2014-15 on Tuesday night, the Federal government has given clear messages on spending cuts across many policy areas to reduce the government deficit and education is not immune. Some key points are outlined below:

- Despite the impact of Federal government budget announcements, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is committed to fulfilling its mission of providing affordable quality Catholic education.
- The Federal government has stated their clear intention of devolving responsibility for education to States following the National Commission of Audit recommendation.
- Introducing indexed school funding meaning no new funding for schools beyond 2017—only indexed increases in line with enrolments.
- Funding of the Better Schools Plan for School Improvement—(Gonski Review) is not going ahead beyond 2017.
- Federal funding for Catholic schools will now be tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which over the last 10 years has risen about 3% annually while education expenditure has risen by 5.5% in the same period.
- Capital spending funding for capital works and new buildings remains unclear. Expected school population projections suggest 350 new Catholic schools needed over next 10 years across Australia.
- New Trade Training Centres will not be funded after June 2016, which limits pathways for employment and training for year 11 and 12 students. Parramatta Diocese has two Trade Training Centres in Mt Druitt and Emu Plains.
- Significant cuts to the National teacher standards body (AITSL) who are responsible for determining the benchmarks for high quality teaching.
- Cuts to the national curriculum body (ACARA) who are responsible for developing a national curriculum, assessment and reporting. e.g. NAPLAN.

Unfortunately the constantly shifting educational landscape with each successive government or budget serves as a distraction to the core work of improving schooling.

“God, our Father, may the presence of Your Spirit be evident in our Christian School Community. Help us to be large of heart, broad in vision and generous in working for the common good of this school community entrusted to our temporary care.” Amen.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Maka
Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Children’s Liturgy of the Word takes place every Sunday during 10 am Mass throughout the term. All primary aged children are warmly invited to attend.

First Communion 2014—Volunteers urgently required

Facilitators and Home Hosts are needed. The programme commences on Monday 26 May. Facilitators Meeting 19th May at 7.30 pm in the Downey Room. If you are able to offer your help by facilitating a home group or Home Hosting for our Parish Based First Holy Communion Programme which runs for one evening per week for three weeks, please contact the parish office on 9639 0598.

Year 1 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy

Year 1 will celebrate their Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church on Friday 16 May. All family and friends are welcome to attend.

Year 3 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy

Year 3 will celebrate their Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church on Friday 30 May. All family and friends are welcome to attend.

Class masses

Children attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am during the term. Dates are as outlined in the Dates to Remember.

ELEVATE J1 TERM 2

Elevate started Friday 9th May J1 and is being held every second Friday from 7.00-9.00pm. Meet at the Downey Room (church carpark). Bring a gold coin donation. Just a reminder that every child MUST be signed IN and OUT by a parent/guardian. For more enquiries please contact Laura Burton (J1 co-ordinator) on 0433 259 234 or Jeremiah Wilkes (Youth Minister) on 0423 342 215.

Mr David Ison
Religious Education Coordinator

Pentecost 2014

The parish will celebrate the birthday of the Church, Pentecost, on Sunday 8 June 2014. A special Mass with a candle/banner procession, and prayers in community languages will be said at 10.00am Mass. This will be followed with a community shared meal in the Parish Hall at about 11.00am. The group organising the event need volunteers to participate in the banner/candle procession/community language prayers at Mass and cooking for the meal. If you would like to volunteer for any of the above jobs, please call Lucy on 9899 9009 or email: pmaquigre@acsmail.net.au. We look forward to seeing you all at this happy community event.

Parish Family Groups

Diocese of Parramatta has taken an initiative step for the next five years Pastoral Plan. The Diocese has printed the Pastoral Plan book titled “Faith in our Future.” The pastoral plan has two basic goals for us in the next five years: to grow in faith and to share our faith. This pastoral plan gives us some directions for the community of faith, parish, ministry group, or family to build up a stronger future of faith. Based on this pastoral plan in the Diocese, St Michael’s community would like to add more family groups in our parish. Therefore, those who would like to join in our Parish Family Groups please give your name, address and telephone number to Frs Mick or P.J or contact the parish office on 9639 0598.

Faith at the Fiddler - 29 May

A forum for young people aged 18-35 to gather together to discuss issues of faith and spirituality in the friendly and warm atmosphere of Sydney’s most famous pub. Speaker: Miranda Devine. Topic: Communicating Virtue - How young people are hungry for meaning in an amoral age. Time: 5-7pm, with talk starting at 5pm. Venue: The Greenway Room at the Mean Fiddler, cnr Commercial & Windsor Rds, Rouse Hill. Details: Steven Buhagiar - Catholic Education, Parramatta, sbuhagiar@parra.catholic.edu.au

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

The social skill for Term 2 Week 4 is:
Compassion
Feeling sorrow or pity for others who are having difficulties.

SYMPATHY

Please keep in your prayers the Moreno family (Bianca 5 Blue) on the passing of their maternal grandfather last week.
Eternal rest grant to him, Lord. Let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

School fees

Term 2 school fee statements have been issued and are due by 4 June 2014, if you have not received a statement in the post or wish to discuss a payment plan please contact Linda Borsato in the school office on 9639 0518 or alternatively you can email lborsato@parra.catholic.edu.au

2015—ENROLLING NOW

Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2015 can be collected from the school office from 10 March—20 May 2014. Please contact the school office on 9639 0518 for further information.

ST MICHAEL’S PLAYGROUP

Kindergarten 2015 children Social groups

Do you have a child starting kindergarten next year at St Michael’s 2015 and would you like the opportunity for your child to mix with others starting school next year?
Come along with your child (and toddlers) to 2 hour play sessions on Tuesdays or Fridays at St Michael’s Playgroup for the rest of 2014.
Enquiries and registration Call Michelle 0415385353
(If you are only available on other week days, please call and register your interest).

What every parent needs to know . . .

⇒ What are your children commonly using their personal devices for socially?
⇒ What apps and sites are they using?
⇒ How can you protect your children when they are using the devices at home?

The P&F present
‘Being tech savvy and cyber safe’

Monique Dalli, Leader of E-learning Gilroy College
Wednesday 21 May 7-8 pm
St Michael’s School Hall
### DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 16 May</td>
<td>Year 2 Maritime Museum—2Green, 2Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 16 May</td>
<td>School Assembly—Faith@work—Diocesan Works Fund Appeal—9 am in the Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 16 May</td>
<td>Year 1 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 20 May</td>
<td>Years 3-6 ICAS Computer Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 20 May</td>
<td>K Red and 5 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 21 May</td>
<td>1 Yellow and 6 Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 21 May</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7-8 pm Guest speaker: Monique Dalli “Being tech savvy and cyber safe”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 22 May</td>
<td>Years 1-6 Incursion—Author Boori (Monty) Pryor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 22 May</td>
<td>5 Green and K Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 23 May</td>
<td>Year 1 Incursion—Wildlife World &amp; Sydney Aquarium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 23 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Incursion—Antarctica 11.30 am-1.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 27 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Bathurst Excursion—NEW DATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 27 May</td>
<td>2 Red and 2 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 28 May</td>
<td>1 Blue and 6 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 29 May</td>
<td>3 Blue and 3 Red—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30 May</td>
<td>Concert Band members’ performance at Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30 May</td>
<td>Year 3 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 3 Jun</td>
<td>5 Yellow and K Green—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 4 Jun</td>
<td>Years 3-6 ICAS Science Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 4 Jun</td>
<td>5 Red and K Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 5 Jun</td>
<td>1 Green and 6 Green—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 5 Jun</td>
<td>Yr 6 Cake stall—Recess and lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 6 Jun</td>
<td>Whole School Mass—Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9 Jun</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 10 Jun</td>
<td>4 Yellow and 4 Green—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 11 Jun</td>
<td>6 Blue and 1 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 12 Jun</td>
<td>3 Blue and 3 Red—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Jun</td>
<td>Yr 6 Debating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Jun</td>
<td>Year 4 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon-Fri 16-20 Jun</td>
<td>Years 3-6 ICAS Writing Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 17 Jun</td>
<td>Year 3-6 ICAS Spelling Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18 Jun</td>
<td>4 Red and 4 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18 Jun</td>
<td>Year 5 Reconciliation—10 am in the Church</td>
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<td>Thu 19 Jun</td>
<td>Year 6 Incursion—Art Gallery NSW &amp; St Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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<td>Wed 25 Jun</td>
<td>K Red and 5 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 26 Jun</td>
<td>2 Green and 2 Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 26 Jun</td>
<td>Student and Citizen of the Term Award Presentations—2.30 pm in the Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27 Jun</td>
<td>End of Term Whole School Mass—10.15 am School concludes at 3.10 pm</td>
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</tbody>
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**School Holidays**—Monday 30 June—Friday 11 July

Term 3 Resumes—Monday 14 July—Staff and Students

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Please note that from time to time there may be unavoidable circumstances that may occur and dates advertised for events may need to be changed. Every effort is made to give as much notice as possible when changes occur. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

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**Band news**

Concert band members will be performing at the School assembly on Friday 30 May. Parents are welcome to come along and see them perform.

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**Music news**

2Red and 2Blue will be singing a song they have learnt in music at the assembly in Week 4 (23 May). All are welcome to attend.
SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the 7 students who attended Mackillop winter trials in Canberra last week. Particular well done to Sheiden Jabor who was selected in the Mackillop girls Football team and will travel to Forster to attend the State football carnival next month.

Well done to our school cricket team who prevailed in a very close match eventually winning by 2 runs. Great job Jarrod French who top scored with 30 not out. Next game to be played in term 3.

Mr Steve Kovelis
Sports Teacher

St Michael’s Primary School Hall
Wednesday 21st May 2014  7 - 8 pm

What every parent needs to know...

Being tech savvy and cyber safe

Understanding implications of technology:
Apps and sites to avoid and why

Parental controls:
How to set these up, what they mean and do

Strategies and guidelines:
For home that mimic school policy

P&F Present Guest Speaker: Monique Dalli,
Leader of E-learning, Gilroy College

Please bring an Apple device to the session if possible

Please complete and return to the School office
Child’s name
Class
I, ................................................................. will be attending the “Being tech savvy and cyber safe” session on Wednesday 21st May at 7 pm.
Signature: ..........................
YEAR 6 CAKE STALL
Thursday 5 June—Recess and lunch
This is a fundraising event for the Year 6 farewell. Cakes will be sold outside the staff lunch room. Price from 50c.

UNIFORM SHOP—2014
Every Thursday during Term time—8.30 am—9.30 am
WINTER UNIFORM PRICE LIST FORM
Available on our website at the following location:
http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes

URGENT NEED FOR SIZE 10 & 12 SECOND-HAND TUNICS
If you would like to donate your second-hand tunic size 10 &12 that would be appreciated as we have several students who wish to purchase one.

Please label all items of uniform clearly so that they can be returned to your child if lost and found.

PDPHE News
Mrs Berenice Gerometta, PDHPE coordinator

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Please label all items of uniform clearly so that they can be returned to your child if lost and found.

Cool Kids Crunch & Sip®!
Don't forget the bottle of water and fruit or vegetables for Crunch & Sip® everyday!

Is dried fruit OK for Crunch & Sip®?
Although fresh fruit is the best choice, a small amount of dried fruit (eg sultanas or apricots) is an acceptable Crunch & Sip® option.

Dried fruit tends to cling to the teeth, so is best eaten with a meal or when a toothbrush is handy.

NOTE fruit straps, bars or rolls are NOT permitted as they contain large amounts of sugar.

Fruit Salad... Yummy Yummy!
Fruit salad is a great idea for Crunch & Sip®, full of colour, flavour and nutrients.

Why not chop up your child’s favourite fruit and pop it into a sealable container. Don’t forget a fork!

Celebrating the early years
When: Sunday 18th May 2014 at 11am
Where: St Patricks Cathedral Parramatta
This Mass will recognise, celebrate and be offered for couples celebrating Wedding Anniversaries between 1 and 20 years. Those celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th or 20th Wedding anniversary will be given a commemorative certificate after the Mass. Couples and their families are invited to a light lunch in the parish hall after the Mass.

From “I do”, to “We do”: a unique approach to making couple decisions.
When: Thursday 29th May 2014. 730 – 9pm.
Where: Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Flushcombe & Marion St, Blacktown
Run by Francine and Bryon Pirola Directors of Smart Loving.

- Do you find it difficult to make decisions as a couple?
- Does one or both of you end up feeling compromised and without an equal voice?
- Do your discussions often end up in unpleasant arguments or cold wars?

Come and learn a method for making couple decisions. This unique Values Based Decisions Making framework will help you to learn how to connect with your deepest values for love and unity so that your choices become true couple decisions. Francine Pirola an experienced marriage educator, a director and founder of the Smart loving series courses will give this presentation. Admission is free!

Faith in Marriage – a conference about marriage for couples (speakers include TV personality and psychologist Jo Lambert)
When: Sunday 24th August 9:30 – 4:30pm
Where: Our Lady of Mercy College, Ross Street North Parramatta

Keen Green Beans!
Many people eat cooked green beans at dinner. But did you know that raw green beans also make a great snack?

Why not try adding fresh green beans in a small container for your child’s Crunch & Sip® break?

Keep ’em keen – give ’em beans!
MOTHER’S DAY WRAP UP

Gift Stall - A fabulous day with a vast array of gifts for the students to choose from including photo frames, jewellery, mugs, plant pots, diaries and aprons. Leads of gifts were purchased on the day and with the help of our fabulous Mum (and a Dad) volunteers the stall ran smoothly and efficiently. Children were very excited to choose their own special presents for their Mums - hope they were well received and put a smile on someone’s face on Sunday.

Morning Tea - What a successful and happy morning! Mums, grandmothers and their guests were treated to a delicious morning tea after the Mass. Treats ranged from muffins and cakes to salmon and cucumber sandwiches to watermelon cups. The Kids Korner was once again a hit with fairy bread and sandwiches on offer and some craft activities for the little ones. The Mother’s Day raffle prizes were on display and was drawn that afternoon - all winners have been contacted. Congratulations to all the parents who were lucky enough to win a fabulous prize!

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea donation table was also present at morning tea - we thank you for your generous donations to support a worthy cause!

Thank you again to our volunteers who made another P&F event a smooth and pleasant one. Thank you to Davine Kustroba who coordinated the Morning Tea superbly and to our wonderful parents and grandparents who always are a pleasure to have as our guests.

The best way to keep updated is to go and “LIKE” our Facebook page!

www.facebook.com/PFSStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills

Find us on:

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfsmichaels@gmail.com

We thank you for your continued support!
Term 2
P+F present “Being Tech Savvy and Cyber Safe”
Guest speaker Monique Dolli from Gilray College,
Wednesday 21st May 7pm-8pm School Hall
Pyjama Multi Day - Last Week June Date TBC

Term 3
Grandparent’s Day & Morning Tea - Friday 25th July
P+F Meeting, All Welcome - Wednesday 30th July 7pm
Tea Towel Fundraiser - End of July Date TBC
Father’s Day Gift Stall - Thursday 4th September
Father’s Day Liturgy 10:15am/Morning Tea 11am - Friday 5th September

Mother’s Day Morning Tea

Congratulations Mother’s Day Monster Raffle Winners!
All the winners were parents at our school
The P+F thanks everyone for their support of our raffle!
Kim Cassingena, Mandy Anderson, Jen Cafai, Josephine Beazley, Kelly Jones, Kathy Tindle, Samantha Giffney, Noreen Mostyn, A. Vasquez, Teresa Rizk, Simone, Jemma 1 Blue, Mrs Komadina, I Lopez, Kayla 2 Red, Kylie Oremmo, Jordan Morris, Min Cho, Renee Emanuel, Darren Griffith, Jacob 6 Green
SCHOOL HATS
Please ensure that your child does not lend or borrow hats to minimise the risk of head lice infestation.
Children are unable to borrow hats from the school office for the same reason.

ST MICHAEL’S NETBALL CLUB
Please note our next General Club meeting will be held on Monday 26th May commencing 7.30 pm in the Marie Therese Room.
A representative from each team is required to attend.
For more information, please check the Club website or Contact: Louise Club Secretary on 0418 113964.

ST MICHAEL’S BIGGEST MORNING TEA
Thank you to all who supported the Cancer Council and generously donated at the Mother’s Day Morning Tea and at the cake stall held that afternoon. We raised $412
You can still support St Michael’s efforts and get involved by making a donation. Donate ON-LINE http://nsw.cancercouncilfundraising.org.au/stmichaelsbaulkhamhills
Donations can also be made at the school office - please clearly mark your envelope and if a receipt is required. All funds raised will be donated to The Cancer Council.

ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT
Each year the Catholic Tribunal Staff and CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry present Information Sessions to help people understand how the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church is conducted. Questions are answered on details such as the length of time it takes, the cost, the role of witnesses, the number of interviews required, the grounds for an Annulment, how to start the process, etc. The evening is open to anyone at all who is interested in gaining more information about the Annulment process in the Catholic Church. Venue: CCSS Centre, 2 A Villiers St. Parramatta. Date: Tues 20th May. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: $5.00.
Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 9933 0205.

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