Dear Parents

**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

The school’s calendar is now available on our website: [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au). In the school calendar you will find information on events scheduled until the end of the school year. The calendar will be updated as the need arises.

**PROTECTING YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS**

Just a reminder to constantly monitor sites that your children visit on iphones, ipads, computers. Sometimes children go into sites like u-tube for popular songs and then something else can pop up and children can find themselves unexpectedly in sites that contain pornographic images. I am certain that every family wants to protect their children’s innocence and therefore you should make sure that your children do not have access to every site. There are ways for sites to be blocked for their use. Protecting your children from harm is just as important online as it is in the real world.

As a parent or carer, you can play an important role in helping children have safe and positive experiences online. The internet offers an exciting world of experiences for children and the whole family. It can be entertaining, educational and rewarding. However, using the internet also involves risks and challenges. Children might be exposed to content that is sexually explicit, violent, prohibited or even illegal. They may also experience cyber bullying or be at risk from contact by strangers.

Children may - unknowingly or deliberately - share personal information without realising they may be subject to identity theft, or that they are leaving behind content that might not reflect well on them in the future.

By taking an active role in talking with your children about the risks and answering their questions or concerns about something that they find on the Internet you can help them stay safe online.

This is the link to the Stay Smart Online website which is a great source of advice and information about cyber use and safety: [http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/home_users/protect_your_children](http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/home_users/protect_your_children)

**INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT FOR STAFF IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Education in Australia is changing. Our classrooms are no longer about a teacher standing in front of a chalkboard with desks in a row. Modern curricula, new technology and community expectations have changed schools forever and this is putting different demands into our education system.

Catholic schools are proposing a new single agreement covering all teachers and general employees that is suitable for contemporary education—the current work agreement (s) are not in keeping with changes in the education sector.

In line with legislation to be enacted by 2018 a move to a standards-based structure with an emphasis on strengthening school leadership and prompting teaching as a profession.

Clearer career pathways for general employees, such as support and operational staff.

Emphasis on school based collaboration—Each school can make some decisions based on their unique community with professional standards in place to ensure good local management.

Fair pay—with core general conditions for all staff.

Strengthening Catholic community values around a set of clearly articulated principles. Our survey told us that our values are the reason our staff choose to work in Catholic Education.

Agility and an end to unnecessary regulation—The proposed agreement is efficient—consolidating several existing agreements and is written in easy to read English.

"God our Father, As we go about our life today, may Your Spirit go with us. Help us in our efforts to be participants in the lives of our children in ways that are helpful to their development as persons made in Your image and likeness. Amen."

**Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.**


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 Holy Communion

Fourth week of home group sessions commences Monday 16 June. Please keep the children, the home hosts and the group facilitators in your prayers.

First Home Communion Practice sessions

Children must attend the practice session designated for their Communion Mass.

- Communion Mass Fri 20 June 7.30 pm—Practice time Wed 18 June 3.30 pm
- Communion Mass Sat 21 June 11.30 am—Practice time Wed 18 June 4.30 pm
- Communion Mass Sat 21 June 2.00 pm—Practice time Thurs 19 June 3.30 pm
- Communion Mass Sun 22 June 2.00 pm—Practice time Thurs 19 June 4.30 pm.

Year 4 Eucharistic Liturgy

Year 4 will celebrate their Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church on Friday 13 June. All family and friends are welcome to attend.

Year 2 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy

Year 2 will celebrate their Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church on Friday 20 June. 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 section of the newsletter.

Musicians wanted

A music group called "The Gatherers" - from St Michael's Parish is looking for new musicians—a guitarist and a keyboard player. The Gatherers are rostered on for the 10 am Sunday Mass on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please contact Janet Garvie on 98992550 or 0413305589.

Invitation to Enrol - Confirmation Preparation 2014

For children in Year 5 and above

Registration evenings for Confirmation will be held on Monday 21 July and Tuesday 22 July at 7.30pm in St Michael’s Church. For children who have completed the sacrament of Reconciliation at a Church other than St Michael’s, Baulkham Hills, a copy of the child’s baptismal certificate will need to be provided at the time of registration.

Please note there is a cost of $20 payable at registration.

Volunteers Required - Confirmation

We are seeking Facilitators and home hosts from our Parish/School community. If you are able to offer your help in facilitating and or hosting a home group for our parish based Programme which will commence on 11th August please phone the parish office on 9639 0598.

The first Facilitators’ Meeting will be held in the Downey Room on Monday 4th August at 7.30pm

10 Ways To Strengthen Your Marriage: 21 June

Presented by Ann O’Brien, Director - Marriage Support and Specialist Services with CatholicCare Social Services, Diocese of Parramatta. This is a seminar for married and engaged couples and those interested in making marriages strong and resilient. Ten important principles will be presented with examples and strategies to build on healthy and loving relationships. There will be opportunities for discussion, questions and interaction. From 1pm-4.30pm at St John XXIII Parish School, 160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens. No cost: sponsored and organised by Youth for Christ Australia, a family ministry of Couples for Christ Australia, with the support of the St John XXIII. Parish Faith Formation Committee.

St Vincent de Paul Society - Winter Appeal

At each Mass on the weekend 14th-15th June, a very brief appeal for financial assistance will be made on behalf of the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Your generous response will be greatly appreciated.

School fees

Term 2 school fees are now overdue. Thank you to the parents who have paid on time. Reminder letters will be posted within the next week.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty or have any enquiries regarding school fees, please contact Mrs Linda Borsato in the school office on 9639 0518 or alternatively you can email lborsato@parra.catholic.edu.au
DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Jun</td>
<td>Yr 6 Debating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13 Jun</td>
<td>Year 4 Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<td>Mon 16 Jun</td>
<td>Years 3-6 ICAS Writing Competition</td>
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<td>Tue 17 Jun</td>
<td>Years 3-6 ICAS Spelling Competition</td>
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<td>Tue 17 Jun</td>
<td>Yrs 5-6 Girls Soccer Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 17 Jun</td>
<td>1 Red and 6 Red—Parish Mass 9.15 am</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 Excursion—Art Gallery NSW &amp; St Mary’s Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 19 Jun</td>
<td>5 Green and K Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20 Jun</td>
<td>Half-yearly Reports issued to Parents</td>
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<td>Fri 20 Jun</td>
<td>Year 2 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy at 10.15 am in the Church</td>
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<td>Tue 24 Jun</td>
<td>1 Yellow and 6 Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 24 Jun</td>
<td>Yr 6 Debating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25 Jun</td>
<td>K Red and 5 Blue—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<td>P&amp;P Pyjama Multi Day</td>
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<td>Thu 26 Jun</td>
<td>2 Green and 2 Yellow—Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<td>Thu 26 Jun</td>
<td>Student and Citizen of the Term Award Presentations—</td>
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<td>2.30 pm in the Hall</td>
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<td>Fri 27 Jun</td>
<td>End of Term Whole School Mass—10.15 am</td>
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<td>School concludes at 3.10 pm</td>
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School Holidays—Monday 30 June—Friday 11 July
Term 3 Resumes—Monday 14 July—Staff and Students

Mon 14 Jul    | 4 Blue & 4 Red Incursion—CSIRO                                      |
Tue 15 Jul    | 4 Green & 4 Yellow Excursion—Old Government House/Elizabeth Farm    |
Wed 16 Jul    | 4 Blue & 4 Red Excursion—Old Government House/Elizabeth Farm        |
Thu 17 Jul    | 4 Green & 4 Yellow Incursion—CSIRO                                  |
Mon 21 Jul    | Year 3 Excursion—Taronga Zoo                                        |
Fri 25 Jul    | Whole School Mass—Grandparents’ Day—10.15 am in the Church          |
|             | Church followed by Morning Tea in the Hall                          |
Tue 29 Jul    | Years 3-6 ICAS English Competition                                  |
Wed 30 Jul    | Year 5 Reconciliation—10.00 am                                      |
Thu 31 Jul    | Year 6 Debating                                                     |
Fri 1 Aug     | School Athletics Carnival                                           |
Tue 5 Aug     | Year 4 Incursion—“Oz Trail Yeah”, History of Australia              |
Tue 12 Aug    | Years 3-6 ICAS Mathematics Competition                              |
Thu 14 Aug    | Year 6 Debating                                                     |
Fri 15 Aug    | Feast of the Assumption Mass                                        |
Fri 15 Aug    | Year 6 Debating                                                     |
Mon 18 Aug    | Book Week                                                           |
Fri 22 Aug    |                                                            |
Wed 20 Aug    | Bookathon and Dress up Day                                          |

The school’s calendar is now available on our website: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au.

MUSIC NEWS

The school choir will be performing a few songs at the Assembly in Week 7 (June 13). All are welcome to attend.

Mrs Lyndall Parker, Music Teacher

BLUE News

This term, Year 1 has been learning about insects and creepy crawlies. Here are some of our interesting discoveries:

“The black and yellow stripes on bees warn other animals not to come near.” – Jemma
“Worms push and pull their body along the ground to move.” – Sarkis
“Ants don’t chew their food. They suck out the insides and leave the outside like a shell.” – Jude
“Only the female bees have a stinger.” – Sarah
“Snails have breathing holes near their shell.” – Mia J
“Bees can fly up to 30km in one go.” – Riley
“Snails have tentacles on their heads to help them feel what is around them.” – Holly
“Snails leave a shiny trail behind them when they move.” – Cameron
“Ants have poor eye sight so they smell the track they are walking.” – Charlize

Application for Leave for Students taking leave during the School Year

Parent Information

In 2013 new Government guidelines were introduced 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.

STAR CORNER

Congratulations to Alana Curran-Jones (5 Blue) who competed in her first ever international Irish dancing competition on the Gold Coast. It was the first international competition to be held in Australia and there were competitors from UK, USA and NZ. Alana did extremely well and placed 5th.

stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au.
Term 2
Pyjama Mufti Day - Wednesday 25th June

Term 3
Grandparent’s Day & Morning Tea - Friday 25th July
P&F Meeting, All Welcome - Wednesday 30th July 7pm
Father's Day Gift Stall - Thursday 4th September
Father’s Day Liturgy 10.15am and Morning Tea 11am - Friday 5th September

Breast Cancer & P&F GIRLS NIGHT IN FUNDRAISER - Friday 24th October
Do you know of a business that would be interested in holding a stall on the night? Or would like to donate a prize? Email us!

Pyjama Mufti Day!
Wednesday 25th June 2014
Get up and go straight to school!
Wear your pyjamas! Onesies ok!
You must wear socks & sensible shoes - joggers, sneakers, sandshoes.
Ok to do sport in your pyjama mufti. Back to normal Thursday 26th.
If everyone could please bring a gold coin donation
we are raising funds for IT resources
More Chrome books for the school.

Find us on: facebook®
www.facebook.com/PFStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills

The best way to keep updated is to go and “LIKE” our Facebook page!
If you have any concerns or feedback, please email:
pandfstmichaels@gmail.com
We thank you for your continued support!
International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
Please note in your diary the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer skills</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 16 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 29 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 12 August</td>
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ST MICHAEL’S NETBALL CLUB
Would you like to learn to play Netball?
St Michael’s Netball club are running a Net Set Go program for all girls aged 5-6 years.
Come and learn the basics to get you started.
Build new friendships and have fun.
Starts: July 14th – runs for 8 weeks
When: Monday afternoons 3:30 pm-4:30 pm at Crestwood Netball courts.
Cost: $50 – no uniform required.
To register please contact Rebecca Vella on 0418 244 169 or rebeccav7@bigpond.com

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta is celebrating 125 years of Mercy Excellence in education.
Discover rich tradition and cutting edge education at OLMC Parramatta during an Open Morning Tour on June 16. Tour the College and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Leadership Team.

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.

Mum & Bub— Sing-along Sessions
WHEN: Tuesdays in June 9.15am - 9.45am
WHO: 0 - 2 year olds and carers
WHAT TO BRING: Hand Rattle. Older siblings bring a bear/doll.
WHERE: St Michaels Playgroup Centre
No booking necessary just turn up!

MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE
June 27 - 29 Weekend Retreat
Teresa through her Poetry and Letters
Cost: $220
We will trace her journey as revealed in her poetry and letter.
Fr Greg Burke, OCD.
Enquiries:
Phone: 8795 3400
Email: retreats@carmelitereetreats.com.au
Web: carmelitereetreats.com.au
Where: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW, 2566

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Queries: Call Michelle 0415 385 353

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
Orders sent in during the week will be completed on Thursdays.
Please label all items of uniform clearly so that they can be returned to your child if lost and found.