From the Principal

Dear Parents

This is our final newsletter for the year. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the whole community for their involvement and support with the children and the school. This has been another very successful year in the children’s Religious and learning opportunities, as well as their extracurricular activities. We continue to move from strength to strength in terms of the experiences and the learning opportunities we offer our children with the children rising to the challenge and continuing to make us very proud.

Year 6

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who will celebrate their graduation tonight. My best wishes to all of you as your journey as life long learners continues into high school.

Farewell

Mrs Efiegenia Normoyle is retiring after more than forty years as a teacher at St Michael’s. We thank her for her dedication and hard work and our best wishes for a happy retirement.

Fr Mick will take up his appointment at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains in 2015. Thank you Fr Mick for your great support and involvement with the children, staff and families of the school and parish. We wish you all the best in your new appointment.

P&F Committee

Thank you to the outgoing 2014 P&F committee for the $10,000 donation to the school which will go towards our building up of technology in the school. We look forward to working with the 2015 P&F committee next year.

School leaders

Thank you to our school leaders this year for their enthusiasm and the mature manner in which they represented the school and the excellent way they have each carried out their particular role. It has been a pleasure to have their support and I wish them every success in the future.

Congratulations to our new school leaders for 2015 who will be indentured into their role at our first whole school mass in 2015.

School Captains:
Kristian Knezevic
Juliette Mkali

Vice Captains:
Callum Alvaro
Georgia Simic

Colour House Captains:
Gold: Darcy Brette & Sheiden Jabour
Green: Max Basso & Antonia Peprah
Blue: Charles Horner & Annaliese Gremmo
Red: Isabella Carney & Noah Jackson

Community leaders:
Christian Abal, Adriana Alam,
Kayden Anderson, Emily Barton,
Bronte Clarkson, Thomas Cowling,
Kim Pham, James Urquhart

Reflection

As we approach Christmas we are not only readying our gifts, decorations and food, we need to be readying our hearts and minds for the ultimate gift we have been given in the person of Christ. Likewise, we need to do that which brings us closer to the one whose birth we are celebrating. This might include choosing to attend events where the message is centred on the birth of Christ, rather than on Santa and his reindeers.

“God, our Father, this Christmas teach us to look to the Star, the sign of miracles and dreams, the messenger of joy, the promise of peace, and like the Wise Men of old, may we follow after those things that make for peace. Amen.”

Wishing all our families every blessing at Christmas and throughout the New Year.
End of Year Whole School Mass

The whole school will gather for our end of year Mass on Wednesday 17 December at 10.15 am in the Church. All welcome to attend.

Sacramental programs

If you are seeking any assistance with Sacramental programs for 2015 please contact Monica from the Parish Office on 9639 0598..

Mr David Ison
REC Coordinator

St Vincent de Paul Society 2014 Christmas Hamper Appeal

We are inviting people to donate non-perishable food items that will be used to support needy families over the Christmas period. We would ask if donations can be brought in by Friday 12 December please. The donations will be stored in classrooms and will be collected by members of the St Vincent De Paul Society. Many thanks in advance for your support of this worthy appeal.

Thank you for your generous support of the Christmas hampers.

Parish News

Christmas Eve / Christmas Day - Special Rosters

This Christmas the Parish needs assistance from all ministries and groups to help with the smooth running of the Christmas Masses. Can you help?

Christmas Mass times:

- Christmas Eve (Wednesday): 6 pm (outdoors, weather permitting), 8 pm, and Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day (Thurs): 8 am & 10 am (please note there is no 6 pm Mass Christmas Day).

Communal Reconciliation

Will be celebrated at St. Michael’s on Monday 15th December at 7.30 pm and at OLOL on Thursday 18 December at 7.30 pm. All are invited to attend as a suitable preparation for Christmas.

Communal Rite of Reconciliation will be held at St.Bernadette’s, Castle Hill on Tuesday 23rd December, 7.30 pm.

St Michael’s Christmas Brunch

No-one Should Spend Christmas Alone...

This Christmas morning, if you are a single person a couple, or a family, you are warmly invited to share a Christmas Brunch with your St Michael’s community. We would love to share Christmas with you!! Equally, if you know anyone who even might be spending Christmas alone, invite them to join you - you are warmly invited to share a Christmas Brunch with your St Michael’s community. We would love to share Christmas with you!!

Please keep in your prayers Mr Ison and his family on the passing of his father.

Eternal rest grant to him, Lord. Let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Christmas Eve Mass

As is the tradition at St Michael’s, the children of our Parish will act out the Gospel at the 6 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. We are in need of several primary children to fill the roles of actors and narrators, and, of course, many younger children to take the parts of angels and shepherds. If you are attending the Mass and your child/children would like to be involved, please fill in the form below and return it to Mrs van Gend c/o K Green.

*Please note: If your child is selected as an actor or narrator, they must be able to attend a one hour rehearsal at 10 am on Monday, 22nd December on the school oval.

Shepherds and angels DO NOT need to attend this practice.

☐ I would like to be a narrator.
☐ I would like to have an acting role. (Joseph, Lead Angel, Caesar)
☐ I would like to be involved in the Christmas Eve Mass as an angel or shepherd.

This year, we have a new, younger horse as our donkey. He is quite active and may become jumpy with the live music. Consequently the role of Mary must be taken by one of Mr Atkins’ grand-children who is familiar with the horse and a competent rider.

Child’s name ........................................ Class/Age ........................
Parent’s name: .............................................................................
Phone number: ............................................................................

Reconciliation Preparation 2015- Important Notice

Families with children who have turned eight or are in Year 3 and above and wish their child to participate in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will need to attend one of the two registrations evenings to be held on Monday 2 February or Tuesday 3 February at 7.30pm in the Church. Parents will need to bring a copy of their child’s baptism certificate (not original) in order to complete the registration process. The cost will be $20 per child. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the parish office on 9639 0598.

The Parish encourages children with disability to fully participate in the parish sacramental program. Please contact the parish office on 9639 0598 to discuss your child’s needs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 12 Dec</td>
<td>Years K-5 Promotion Afternoon—Children meet their teacher and class for 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 15 Dec</td>
<td>Student and Citizen of the Term Award Presentation 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 16 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Sydney Olympic Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Dec</td>
<td>Assembly—Choir singing Christmas Carols—9 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Dec</td>
<td>End of Year Whole School Mass 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Dec</td>
<td>Students finish for Term 4—3.10 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2015—Term 1

Thu 15 Jan  | Uniform Shop Open 10.00-12.00 pm—please note date/time change         |
Tue 27 Jan  | Staff Development Day—Pupil Free —MAI Testing Years K-6               |
Wed 28 Jan  | Staff Development Day—Pupil Free —MAI Testing Years K-6               |
Thu 29 Jan  | Years 1-6 commence                                                    |
Fri 30 Jan  | Kindergarten commence 9.20 am, finish at 2.45 pm                      |
Sat 7 Feb   | Kindergarten 2015 Teddy Bear Picnic—11 am-1 pm Hall                  |

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

2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
Please return competition forms by Friday 12 December 2014

Gazetted NSW School Terms 2015
Term 1: Tuesday, 27 January to Thursday, 2 April
Term 2: Monday, 20 April to Friday, 26 June
Term 3: Monday, 13 July to Friday, 18 September
Term 4: Tuesday, 6 October to Friday, 18 December

UNIFORM SHOP—2014
Every Thursday during the Term
8.30 am—1.00 pm

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.

The uniform shop will be open on promotions day
Friday 12 December from 12.00-3.00 pm.

2015
*Open Thursday 15 January 2015 10.00 am-12.00 pm
(*Please note date and time change)
Thursday 29 January 2015 8.30 am-1.00 pm

Student of the Week Term 4 Week 8

KBlue  Andrew Saliba
KGreen  Anthony Khoury
KRed     Harry Kalal
KYellow  Tony Bazouni
1Blue    Charlize Olic
1Green   Elizabeth Semenov
1Red     Calum Bowles
1Yellow  Emily Cory
2Blue    Amelia Vella
2Green   Thomas Williams
2Red     Lara Woods
2Yellow  Kayla The
3Blue    Zayra Plebani
3Green   Charlotte Stewart
3Yellow  Joshua Patrick
4Blue    Olivia Hanna
4Green   Isabella Charon
4Red     Jackson Flood
4Yellow  Nikola Mirosevic
5Blue    Noah Jackson
5Green   Vanessa Wong Kee
5Red     Brooke Woodroffe
5Yellow  James Urquhart
6Blue    Sarah Wadih
6Green   Riley Brown
6Red     Chloe Alderson
6Yellow  Jada Susas

Student of the Week Term 4 Week 9

KBlue  Abbey Cassar
KGreen  Tea Stefanakis
KRed     Julia Worsley
KYellow  Paul Kim
1Blue    Sarah Zammit
1Green   Adrian Biankin
1Red     Lara Bugeja
1Yellow  Sophie Terlikar
2Blue    Stephanie Wong Kee
2Green   Rhiana Lum
2Red     Alexia Anezis
2Yellow  Jacinta Gomez
3Blue    Aidan Brosnan
3Green   Laura Croucher
3Red     Seth Pascoe
3Yellow  Stuart Small
4Blue    Bianca Zarriello
4Green   Terence Semenov
4Red     Kristen Betros
4Yellow  Ruby Carluck
5Blue    Brooke Curran
5Green   Tane* O’Brien
5Red     Lara Lahoud
5Yellow  Charles Horner
6Blue    Lauren O'Shaughnessy
6Green   Chloe D’Lima
6Red     Jordon Manzotti
6Yellow  Jamie Munro
Promotions afternoon

Promotions afternoon as you know will take place on Friday 12 December.

This is an opportunity for the children to meet their teacher and classmates for 2015. The teachers have spent an extraordinary amount of time looking at each individual pupil, their needs in terms of the opportunity to learn, feel safe and supported within their peer group.

Serious consideration has been taken in regard to your request of their learning and friendship groups. Every effort has been made by the teachers to place your child with at least one of their friends if possible and with a teacher who will support them in their learning and development as well-rounded individuals. Please make sure that when your child comes home on Friday 12 December, that you respond in a positive way with regard to their placement.

Moving a child from a class at this state is almost impossible because it not only affects one child but numerous other children who have been separated for some reason to create a dynamic and supportive learning environment.

YEAR | Teacher / s | Class Name
--- | --- | ---
K  | Mrs Iciar Quintana  | KQ BLUE
  | Mrs Louise van Gend  | KvG GREEN
  | Mrs Therese Restuccia  | KR RED
  | Mrs Natalie Tiemey  | KT YELLOW
1  | Mrs Natalie Irvine Hendry  | 1H BLUE
  | Mrs Carmel Shields  | 1S GREEN
  | Mrs Chriss Rogers  | 1R RED
  | Mrs Danielle Fleming (Mon, Tues, Odd Wed)  | 1FM YELLOW
  | Mrs Noella Michie (Even Wed, Thurs, Fri)  | 1FM YELLOW
2  | Mrs Carmel Kevill  | 2K BLUE
  | Mrs Olivia Horn (Mon, Tues, Wed)  | 2HS GREEN
  | Mrs Marise Siountris (Thurs, Fri)  | 2HS GREEN
  | Mrs Natasha Petrenas  | 2P RED
  | Mrs Rosa Oliveri (Odd Wed, Thurs, Fri)  | 2OC YELLOW
  | Mrs Maria Calabro (Mon, Tues, Even Wed)  | 2OC YELLOW
3  | Mrs Aprill Bray  | 3B BLUE
  | Miss Gabriella Hertzog—Term 1  | 3H GREEN
  | Miss Marion Craven—Terms 2-4  | 3H GREEN
  | Mrs Genevieve Mifsud  | 3M RED
  | Mrs Annemarie Bond (Mon, Tues, Wed)  | 3BT YELLOW
  | Mrs Irene Tymoc (Thurs, Fri)  | 3BT YELLOW
4  | Mrs Colleen Smith  | 4S BLUE
  | Mrs Maureen Gleeson  | 4G GREEN
  | Mrs Philippa Cox  | 4C RED
  | Mr David Ison  | 4I YELLOW
5  | Mrs Melissa Xuereb  | 5X BLUE
  | Mrs Brigitte Joseph  | 5J GREEN
  | Mrs Lucy Messina  | 5M RED
  | Mrs Julie Day (Mon, Tues, Even Fri)  | 5DD YELLOW
  | Mrs Kath Downie (Wed, Thurs, Odd Fri)  | 5DD YELLOW
6  | Mr George Francis  | 6F BLUE
  | Mrs Julie Rugg  | 6R RED
  | Mr Robert Zimmatore  | 6Z GREEN
  | Mrs Vanessa Aguirre  | 6A YELLOW

PARLIAMENT AND CIVICS EDUCATION REBATE

On Thursday 4 December, Year 6 undertook an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs which focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
Congratulations to the following children who have made it into the 2015 Zone Swimming Competition:

**Age 50m Free**
8  Dallas Brettle  Tobias Butterfield  
9  Oliver Lepri  Joshua Stevens         **BOYS**
10 Angus Lewis  Jake Hallam  
11 Lachlan Dengate  Nathan Sarlog  
12 Nicholas Iordanou  Darcy Brettle  

**Age 50m Free**
8  Elizabeth Harvie  Sienna Gwynne  
9  Angelina McLean  Scarlett Jackson  **GIRLS**
10 Amelia Harvey  Dominique Barbara  
11 Lauren Malysiak  Tiana Moore  
12 Emily Barton  Madison Hume  

**Age Relay**
**JNR**
Angus Lewis  Jake Hallam  
Dylan Brettle  Aaron Bruton  
**Senior**
Nicholas Iordanou  Nathan Sarlog  
Daniel Zorzit  Kristian Knezevic  

**Age Butterfly**
JNR  Jake Hallam  Angus Lewis  
11 YRS  Casey Cruden  Claudia Pellegrini  
Senior  Darcy Brettle  Kristian Knezevic  

**Age Backstroke**
JNR  Dylan Brettle  Jake Hallam  
11 YRS  Dominique Orsina  Joseph Maait  
Senior  Darcy Brettle  Nicholas Iordanou  

**Age Breaststroke**
JNR  Jake Hallam  Angus Lewis  
11 YRS  Nathan Sarlog  Michael Searle  
Senior  Darcy Brettle  Kristian Knezevic  

**BOYS**
**Girls**

**Age Relay 200m IM 100m Free**
**JNR**
Amelia Harvie  Dominique Barbara  
Emma Hallam  Emily Woodroofe  
**Senior**
Emily Barton  Anneke van Zoggel  
**Open**
Lauren Malysiak  Tiana Moore  
Tiana Moore  Lauren Malysiak  

**Age 50m Free**
8  Amelia Harvie  Emily Woodroofe  
9  Anneke van Zoggel  Lauren Malysiak  
10 Anneke van Zoggel  Lauren Malysiak  
11 Annaliese Gremmo  Emily Beattie  
12 Annaliese Gremmo  Emily Beattie  

Congratulations also to Noah Jackson who was selected in the Parramatta Diocesan Softball Team. He progresses to the Mackillop Trial in Term 1 next year.

**Mr Steve Kovelis**  
**Sports Teacher**
**CANTEEN**

Please keep your Menu as it will continue in 2015. This list is available on our website at [http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes)

Roster will also continue for a few weeks in Term 1. Please attend on your usual day if you are returning or notify me if unable to help.

Thank you to all volunteers for your generous assistance in the Canteen, it has been very much appreciated.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a safe holiday.

*Mrs Judy Tamas*

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**STOP AND DROP VOLUNTEERS**

Thank you to all the volunteers who are leaving us this year as their youngest child moves on to high school. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated by everyone in our community.

As we have a number of volunteers leaving, we will need to recruit some new volunteers to assist with S&D to assist with the remaining mornings in Term 4 as well as for 2015.

All it requires is half an hour one morning once a month, so if you have ever thought you’d like to volunteer now is the time! Please contact Debbie Grehan at deborah.grehan@bigpond.com or return the following with your details to the School Office.

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**STOP AND DROP VOLUNTEERS**

Name: ____________________________

Email: ______________________________

Home phone: __________________________

Mobile: _____________________________

Day/s available:

Mon [ ] Tues [ ] Wed [ ] Thurs [ ] Fri [ ]

Child: ________________________________

Class: ______________________________

Child: ________________________________

Class: ______________________________

Child: ________________________________

Class: ______________________________

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**SKOOLBAG**

Next year we will be adding a new communication tool—Skoolbag to our existing methods of communication. Skoolbag provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know, providing instant push notification messages, such as news, events, newsletter posts, last minute cancellations. It provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications and is a free service to families.

Go to the iTunes App store or Google Play Apps and search for the St Michael's Primary Baulkham Hills ‘skoolbag’ app and download the app to your device.

The Newsletter will continue during 2015 but will be produced fortnightly instead of weekly. Parents will still receive a weekly email with the link to the most recent newsletter as well as the school calendar. All other communication via letter/email will continue.

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**Banking**

The school banking year has now finished.

Thank you to all the students who have banked with us in 2014. Any tokens not used this year will automatically roll over for 2015.

Due to an overwhelming demand, the bank has run out of swim bags and projector cups. If you have ordered one of these items and not received it this week, it is on back order and will be sent home in early 2015. Apologies for any inconvenience.

The school banking program will start again on 2 February 2015.

I’d like to take this opportunity to wish all the students and their families a happy and safe festive season.

*Kim, Banking Coordinator*
Dear Parents,

Mathematic Assessment Interviews (MAI) will be held for all children in Kindergarten to Year 6 on Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th January 2015. Each interview will take approximately 30 minutes and needs to be done at the beginning of the year to plan for your child’s learning. As on previous occasions, we will be booking the interviews through the Schools Interview website.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS OPEN Thursday 18th December 2014 at 12 Noon and close on Monday 26th January 2015.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1. Enter your details
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN ON THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER AT 12 NOON SO THAT ALL FAMILIES MAY BOOK AT THE SAME TIME.

For parents that do not have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, they may organise a time with their child’s teacher in the new school year. Please choose your child’s teacher for 2015 as it is vitally important that the interview is done by the class teacher. The interview will take approximately 30 minutes.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code.

We will not be able to complete all the assessments on these days so if you are not available for an interview on these days or there are no interview times left, the class teacher will organise a time for your child's assessment in the first two weeks of the 2015 school year.
P&F GIFT TO YEAR 6 WILL BE PRESENTED AT ASSEMBLY TOMORROW FRIDAY 12th
ALL WELCOME!

Monster Christmas Raffle Reminder

Hi St Michael’s Families!
A little reminder that the Christmas Raffle is on, don’t forget!

1st Prize
$1000 cash!
donated by the P&F

2nd Prize - Samsung Galaxy 10” Tablet
3rd Prize - Lollipops Playland Birthday Party for 8 children

Plus over 40 other prizes! See your ticket for details!

Purchased or unused tickets must be returned by Monday 15th December 2014 in an envelope marked “P&F Raffle”

Raffle drawn Tuesday 16th December 2014

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfstmichaels@gmail.com - We thank you for your continued support!

www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com
Book your holiday with Hello World Stockland Baulkham Hills and they will donate 1% to our school! This is an ongoing offer!

Hello World Travel Bank

Book a school trip, or go on a holiday and help your school at the same time!

The team at helloworld Baulkham Hills in Stockland Mall would like to help your school by donating 1% of your travel costs back to the school. The next time you, your family or friends book a holiday mention your school name to us and your consultant will record your transaction in our Travel Bank. Not only will you be getting an amazing holiday at a great price but you will also be dealing with consultants who understand the importance of supporting our children and our local schools.

BAULKHAM HILLS 02 96861088
baulkhamhills@helloworld.com.au
SHOP 26 STOCKLAND MALL, BAULKHAM HILLS
Cnr Olive & Old Northern Rd, NSW 2153

helloworld
EXPERTS IN EVERYWHERE
Thank you to Skyla Simon and family for collecting the school shoes for the disadvantaged school in South Africa. They now have very heavy suitcases to take with them!

Collection of the school shoes has now finished.

Thank you to the children and parents who have supported this collection and for your support in ensuring that your children brought in a note and wore their white school sports joggers.
The staff of St Michael’s wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.