Dear Parents

Catholic schools week

Thank you to everyone who was involved in Catholic Schools Week—our teachers for all their efforts each and every day to ensure that our children have the best possible learning environment; our wonderful P&F volunteers who generously gave their time and worked tirelessly in organising and catering for the morning tea; and our parents and other visitors for their participation in the day. Events such as this bring our community together in a very positive way bringing out the best in all of us.

Slow and Go

You would all be aware from last week’s insert in the Newsletter that Crestwood High School is very concerned about the behaviour of some of our parents while on the Slow and Go line. The behaviour reported does suggest that the situation is potentially “an accident waiting to happen”. Crestwood High School, in the interest of their students’ safety would like us to cease our Slow and Go procedure.

I am sure there will be a strong push from the school and council for this to happen if the dangerous behaviours do not change.

• Please do not stop in the bus bay—leave a space.
• Please do not block driveways—leave a space.
• No cutting into the Slow and Go line.

There is plenty of time to pick up your child safely and ensure the safety of others.

Thank you for your support.

Senior Constable Rob Paterson, Police Youth Liaison Officer

Yesterday our Year 5 and 6 students had the opportunity to listen to Constable Rob Paterson, the Police Youth Liaison Officer for the Hills area. Constable Paterson spoke to the students about acceptable behaviour at school, home and in the community. He also spoke about cyber bullying, treating people with respect and what to do about bullying.

Constable Paterson also explained that students in primary school should not be on Facebook, Instagram and KIK. He was able to share with the students some suitable Apps and reinforced the need for our students to let their parents know what they are doing when using various technologies.

We live at a time when we have the most wonderful technologies available to us. We need to make sure that we do not allow these technologies to control our lives. Our children need to have a balanced life with opportunities to use ITC under supervision, with plenty of time available to them to enjoy belonging to a sporting team, learning to play a musical instrument, pursuing a hobby, visiting the library or just relaxing in the backyard. Life to be enjoyable needs to be fairly simple. Perhaps the mantra of author Mary Jo Leddy has wisdom to offer us:

“It’s enough,
I have enough,
I am enough,
Life is enough,
I need to grateful enjoy what I have.”

“God, Our Father, we place our trust in you to help us guide our children to be joyful in their lives. Amen”

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Haka
**Religious Education News**

**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.

**Year 6 Reconciliation—Date change**
Year 6 will now participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 26 March at 10 am in the Church. All welcome to attend.

**Year 5 Eucharistic Liturgy**
Year 5 will participate in a Grade Mass on Friday 28 March 2014 at 10.15 am in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

**Whole School Mass**
Our next whole school mass will be on Friday 11 April at 10.15 am in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

**Altar Servers urgently needed for Easter**
If you are able to assist with any altar serving over the period from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday, please contact the Parish office on 9639 0598.

**First Communion Preparation 2014**
Invitation to Enrol - First Communion Preparation 2014 Registrations will take place Wednesday 22nd April 9.30 am in the school hall.

Rehearsals will be as follows: 9.30 am Sat 22nd March; 9.30 am Sat 29th March; 9.30 am Sat 5th April.

School holiday rehearsals: 10:00 am Wednesday 16th April, 7:30 am Good Friday

Breakfast will be provided at all rehearsals.

Youth Leaders will meet the children at the school hall. For more information please contact Jerry on 0423342215 or email at youth@stmichaelsbh.org.au.

Mr David Ison
Religious Education Coordinator

---

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS ROLE PLAY**

I would like my child: ______________________________________________________

in class: ___________ to participate in the Stations of the Cross Role Play on Good Friday, Friday 18th April.

Signed: ____________________________

---

**PARISH NEWS**

**Stations of the Cross—Lenten Devotion**
The Passion and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ was the greatest expression of His love for us. According to tradition, after Jesus died, Our Lady used to visit those places where Our Lord shed His blood (the way of the cross), she meditated on His suffering for us. Then some other faithful followers of Jesus did the same. This became a tradition that has evolved through time and has become a very powerful devotion to the Passion and death of Jesus Christ.

A Lenten Devotion will be held every Friday during Lent at 7.30pm, in the church led by the our various ministries.

**After 10**

After 10 happens straight after 10 am Mass on Sundays. It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, have a good cuppa and catch up with others. WHEN: 23 March. All welcome.

**Parish Council Annual General Meeting**
The Parish Council AGM will be held in the Downey Room on Sunday 23 March, commencing at 11.00 am.

All parishioners are invited to attend this meeting.

**Lenten Reflection Group**
Come and join in The Lenten Reflection Groups. If you are new to the Parish or wanting to make friends, this is a good opportunity to meet and share with others. We will meet every Wednesday at 12.15 in the Downey Room and 7.30pm in St Michael’s Church during Lent. Please contact Parish Office on 9639 0598, Barbara Stenning 9639 9581 or Anne Sullivan 9624 6916

**Holy Thursday Choir**
The Choir will sing for the Holy Thursday Mass on 17 April at 7.30 pm. Everyone very welcome to join. Rehearsals commence on Monday 31 March 7.30 pm in the Church.

Further enquiries please ring Lise Rider on 0412 125 821.

**2014 Planned Giving Envelopes**

Parishioners registered with St Michael’s Planned Giving Program are asked to pick up their new envelopes from the back of the Church. The new envelopes commence on the week beginning 6th April 2014. If you have recently changed your address, please advise the parish office so our records can be updated. Please do not use old envelopes as some giving numbers have been changed. Thank you to all our Parishioners who so generously support the works of our Parish through the Planned Giving Program. If you would like to assist the Parish by contributing, could you please see Fr Mick or contact the Parish office (Ph: 9639 0598).

PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR NEW ENVELOPES BEFORE THE 6th APRIL 2014. THANK YOU.

---

**SYMPATHY**
Please keep in your prayers the family of Piper Watson (4 Green) on the passing of their maternal grandmother.

Eternal rest grant to her, Lord. Let Your perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.
DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21 Mar</td>
<td>No Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Cross Country Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 25 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 1Red and 6Red attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 4Red and 4Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 6 Reconciliation – 10 am in the Church (Date changed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 27 Mar</td>
<td>Classes KYellow and 5Green attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 5 Liturgy in the Church at 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Mar</td>
<td>NSWCPSS Swimming trials - Homebush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 31 Mar</td>
<td>National Young Leaders Day (Yr 6 Leadership team)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 1 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 1Yellow and 6Yellow attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 1Blue and 6Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 2Green and 2Yellow attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Apr</td>
<td>Yr 4 CSIRO Incursion in the Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 8 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 5Yellow and KGreen attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Apr</td>
<td>Classes KRed and 5Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Apr</td>
<td>NSWPSSA Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 3Blue and 3Red attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Apr</td>
<td>Student and Citizen of the Term Awards – 2.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Apr</td>
<td>P&amp;F—Family Disco Night 5-9 pm (NEW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Mass 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>End of Term 1 Concludes 3.10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School holidays Mon 14 April—Fri 25 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 24 Apr</td>
<td>Uniform shop open—10 am to 12 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 28 Apr</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM
The social skill for next week is: **Courage**

**Courage is doing things that need to be done, even when they are scary or very difficult.**

2015 ENROLMENT PROCEDURES
Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2015 can be collected from the school office from 10 March—20 May 2014.

School Open Morning for 2015 Enrolments is Thursday 10 April from 9.30 am to 11.00 am.

Please contact the school office on 9639 0518 for further information.

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLING PROJECT (QCS)

It is that time of year again where Insight SRC conducts a survey on behalf of our school and the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta. The aim of the survey is to collect valuable information from staff, parents and Year 5 and 6 students about the cultural behaviour, relationships, and learning community of our.

The results will enable our school to build on our successes to date and focus on ways we can continue to improve.

It would be appreciated if the 60 families who have been randomly selected to participate in the survey could complete the survey online or return the hard copy to the school office by no later than Friday 28 March.

If you would like to complete the survey online in the comfort of our school library we will be available next Wednesday 26 March and Thursday 27 March from 8.15—8.45 am.

Your views are very important and combined with the responses from the staff and student surveys, the value of the QCS Project will be greatly enhanced.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and for contributing to quality data about our school and system.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to Darcy Brettle who was selected in the U11 Parramatta Rugby League Team. He will now travel to Canberra on the 9th May for the Mackillop Trials.

Mr Steve Kovelis
Sports Coordinator

MUSIC NEWS

Students from 1Red and 1 Blue will be performing a song they have learnt in music lessons at the Assembly in Week 9—28 March.

Mrs Lyndall Parker
Music Teacher
### PARK SAFELY AROUND SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No Parking</strong></td>
<td>You have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups and must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No Stopping</strong></td>
<td>Under no circumstances are you permitted to stop on a length of road to which a No Stopping Sign applies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bus Zone</strong></td>
<td>You must not stop your vehicle in the indicated zone unless you are driving a public bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Illegal U turns (various offences—maximum penalty)</strong></td>
<td>$405 and 4 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stop across driveway</strong></td>
<td>$169 and 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Double parking</strong></td>
<td>$304 and 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stop on path or nature strip</strong></td>
<td>$169 and 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approach children’s crossing too quickly to stop safely</strong></td>
<td>$405 and 4 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drive using a hand held mobile phone</strong></td>
<td>$405 and 4 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parallel park close to (within 3 metres) double-centre line</strong></td>
<td>$236</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES TERM 1

Due to the Cross Country for Years 2-6 on Friday 21 March, our School Assembly for this week has been rescheduled to Thursday 20 March from 1.45-2.15 pm.

The remaining **School Assemblies** for Term 1 are as follows:

- **Thursday 20 March 2014**: 1.45-2.15 pm
- **Friday 28 March 2014**: 9.00-9.30 am
- **Friday 4 April 2014**: 9.00-9.30 am
- **Friday 11 April 2014**: 9.00-9.30 am

Our **Student and Citizen of the Term Assembly** will be held on:

- **Thursday 10 April 2014**: 2.30-3.00 pm

All parents/carers are welcome to attend the Assemblies which will be held in the School Hall.

### UNIFORM SHOP—2014

Every Thursday **During term time**—8.30 am—9.30 am

*Please ensure your child’s name is mentioned on all items of clothing.*

**School holidays:**

Uniform shop will be open on **Thursday 24 April 10.00 am—12.00 noon**

**SUMMER AND WINTER UNIFORM PRICE LIST FORM**

Available on our website at the following location:


### Year 6 Farewell

**Invitation to all Year 6 Parents,**

If you are interested in being a part of the Year 6 Farewell Committee there will be a meeting held at

**Winston Hills Tavern**

**Wednesday 2nd April at 7.00 pm**

At this meeting we will form a Committee and discuss a venue and date for the occasion.

If you would like to be part of this Committee please come and share your ideas and thoughts to help make this event a memorable occasion for all our Year 6 children.

If anyone has any enquiries before this date please feel free to contact us [jangseesing@bigpond.com](mailto:jangseesing@bigpond.com).

Thank you.

**Joanne Angseesing and Deborah Bovino**

### FOUND

A gold necklace in the carpark on the weekend during the portrait fundraiser times.

Please email the office—[stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)
STUDENT BANKING

Just a reminder to:

• Please ensure that the student number is written on the deposit slip each week.
• Please ensure the deposit slip is fully filled out each week, otherwise the banking will be returned without being processed.
• Please ensure the correct money amount is in the banking pouch for your child and recorded correctly on the deposit slip.

Thank you.  Kim, Banking Coordinator
• BYO picnic dinner ….or Purchase from the P&F BBQ (sausages, hot chips, drinks + more).

• Outdoor cafe.

• Entertainment for the smaller children.

• Pre-purchase $15.00 for family ticket (2 adults and 3 children)
  or $5.00 each ticket. Tickets at the door $20.00 per family.

• Time 5pm to 9pm.

• RSVP Monday 31st March 2014.

• Family disco and there will be something for everyone.
  Not to be missed!

Please return to the office in an envelope marked Family Disco Night, by Monday 31st March - at latest please 😊

Child’s Name:................................................................................Class:........................No of people attending:...............................

Email address:................................................................................................................................

Total enclosed $..............................................  ❑ Cash  or  ❑ Cheque payable to “St Michael's P&F” please.

HELPERS NEEDED!   YES! I can help (tick) ❑

My Name:.............................................................................................................My Mobile/Contact No:..................................................................................
News from 6Blue

Year Six’s Team Building Day At Narrabeen 7 March 2014

On the Narrabeen excursion, 6Blue went to the rope course first. At the end of the rope course, there was a HUGE Flying Fox for which everyone couldn’t wait to go on. First, before we went up the rope course, Chad taught 6Blue how to put on their harnesses so everyone stayed safe and no one fell. It was good how the order of the harnesses were so easy to remember! As there were not enough harnesses for the whole class, we had to get into groups of three or four. Next, we had to put on a helmet. Then we were ready.

Everyone with a harness on, one by one, climbed up the ladder! The ladder was so wobbly so it was very scary! At the top of the ladder, Chad told us when to clip over and we were off! The first rope was the tightrope with an extra rope to hang onto. The second rope was a log which moved from side to side. The third rope was a tight rope with only your harness to hold onto! The fourth rope was two ropes which crossed over in the middle. The fifth rope was the easiest. It was like a laid down ladder which nearly everyone ran across. The last rope was a rope with extra ropes hanging down to hold onto. Then, we went on the Flying Fox! It was so much fun! I wanted to do it again! After the Flying Fox we moved on.

At first, we had to put a harness on. I was terrible at it, trust me. But after that, I started the rope course. I was so scared, very scared, but when I put two legs on the rope I was fine. It wasn’t too scary, but my finger hurt especially on the Flying Fox.

Next 6Blue did the canoeing and kayaking. First, we had to put on our life jackets and then help each other pull the canoes into the water. We had single, double and triple canoes. We had to work as a team to pull the canoes out and back in. We also had to work as a team to make the canoes go in if you were a triple or double.

When we finished eating and playing we started our next activity. We had a new instructor for the new activity, her name was Suz and the activity was canoeing and kayaking. It was really fun but everyone got wet. The water in the lake was murky and there was mud at the bottom of the lake which was sticky and gluggy. I was in a canoe with Taylah and Sarah, we were not that good at canoeing. I also went into a single kayak which was easier than a three-seater canoe.

The best activity was Archery and I did alright for someone who shoots a completely different bow.

Our second activity was Archery. Many people had no experience of Archery so the people who were watching had to encourage the people who were shooting.

The third activity we did was Archery. It was fun, I got all my arrows on the target. The bows were really small because I normally use bigger bows when I do Archery lessons. But it was really fun and exciting.

Overall this excursion was about teamwork and leadership. I loved this excursion, it was the best.

Overall I think it was fun and a very good way to teach us about leadership and independence.

The lake was very big and wide so there was plenty of room. Quite a few people fell in the water! Not me though. It was a fun experience in the boats. I only did the kayak but you can tell that the canoes needed great teamwork.
Year 6 at Narrabeen
PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT SCHOOL
From time to time photographs may be taken of your child whilst they are at school. These photos may be used in school Newsletters, publications and the school website. They may also be used by Catholic Education, Parramatta Diocese in their publications and website. If you do not wish your child’s photo to be taken, please put this in writing and address to the Principal, Mrs Maka.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING FOR SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS
In order to become a school volunteer at St Michael’s Primary School the following must be completed:

- Child protection training on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website (instructions below).
- Read, complete, sign and return the school’s Confidentiality agreement available from the office or located on the school’s website under the Parent/School notes link.

Instructions for Child Protection training
- Go to St Michael’s website - http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au
- Click on Parents, go to Parent Involvement, click on Child Protection Course. You will then be directed to the Catholic Education Office – Diocese of Parramatta to complete the training.
- Once you have successfully completed the training, an email will be sent to St Michael’s for our records.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset - your Marriage!

Weekend date: 13 – 15 June
Venue: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au
www.wwme.org.au
www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

STEPPING BEYOND: SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED
On the last Tuesday of each month CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry invites those who have been separated or divorced to an evening for sharing and support. The emphasis is on personal development, growth and goals for a hope-filled future. Shared personal experiences are prompted by the questions: “How well are you stepping beyond? What do you want to step beyond? What are you currently stepping beyond? What is stopping you from stepping beyond? What have you learned as you keep stepping beyond?”

Date: Tuesday 25th March, Venue: CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: $5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205.