From the Principal

Dear Parents

Happy Father’s Day, Happy Grandfather’s Day

This Friday we celebrate Father’s Day with the P&F breakfast and morning tea, followed by our Liturgy at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing as many fathers and grandfathers taking part in our celebration of Father’s Day.

Morning supervision 8.20 am

Supervision of the children by teachers commences at 8.20 am. If children arrive a few minutes before 8.20 am they are to sit on the silver seats outside the library. In the last couple of weeks, as the weather has started to warm up, we have noticed that there has been an increase in the number of children arriving early, and also that some of the behaviour during this time has been unacceptable.

I understand the difficulties of working parents, however, please consider your child’s wellbeing and safety. If you need to leave your children earlier than 8.20 am, please consider making arrangements with other family members or friends to drop your children to school. You can also contact Alison from St Michael’s OOSH on 9686 4726 who may be able to help you with before school care.

Attendance

The following information concerns compulsory school student attendance for children over the age of 6 until the minimum school leaving age of 17. The latest research states that attendance patterns established in Year 1 are a predictor of a student’s attendance rates over a student’s school life. Research shows that attendance has a strong relationship to academic achievement not just for a student in their current academic year but also in future years.

There is no safe level of absence. If a student has an 85% attendance rate this could mean that they lose two years of schooling over a period of 13 years.

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents/carers may send a note, fax or email to the school.

A small number of absences may be justified if your child has to:

- go to a special religious ceremony
- Is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- Is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness

Children need to arrive at school and class on time. Lateness to school or leaving early from school is recorded as a partial absence.

If you consider that it is in your child’s best interests to be exempted from the legal requirement to attend school for any length of time, you must apply to the principal for an exemption.

Principals help to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of your child. They must also keep accurate records of student attendance. Principals are able to question requests for a child to be absent from school and are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to our Year 5 students who received the sacrament of Confirmation this week. Each candidate was anointed with the oil of chrism. The chrism signifies learning, protection, strength and enlightenment and is a sign of one’s personal reception of the gifts of the Spirit.

Loving God, You provide and care for all your children.
Grant that we may always love those who show us the love of a mother or father.
May God who is the source of all life, give them joy, blessing and the gift of peace. Amen
Religious Education News

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to all of the children who had the holy Sacrament of Confirmation conferred upon them by Father Christopher de Souza. A special word of thanks goes to the parents who have supported the children, helping them to get to this stage. A word of gratitude goes out to the facilitators and home hosts who helped prepare the children for this very important celebration.

Father's Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy

The Father’s Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy will be held on Friday 4 September at 10.30 in the Church. All welcome to attend.

Religious education in the classroom

Last Friday, I had the pleasure of visiting Kinder- garten Green as they explored the different sacred spaces we have in our church. We are very lucky to be part of the Parish of Baulkham Hills. It was great to see and hear the children as they talked about the different symbols we have in our church that are regularly used in our prayer and worship.

I also had the opportunity to visit 4Blue. They have began the lesson with a warm up activity where the children quizzed each other about their general Religious Literacy Knowledge.

The children have the opportunity to take turns of asking and answering a question before swapping cards and moving onto a new partner. The idea of this activity is to improve student confidence and understanding

Mr David Ison, REC Coordinator

Voice of Youth, 2015

The three contestants from St Michael’s—Bronte Clarkson, Madison Hume and Annaliese Gremmo—who qualified for the Cluster Final need to be congratulated for articulating what they are passionate about. They did just that with poise and excellence.

At this year’s contest, our students performed their best and won the appreciation of the audience. However, none of students from St Michael’s qualified for the next round of the contest.

Mr George Francis
Year 6 Teacher

Social Skills and Mantras Program

Term 3 Week 9
Suggesting and persuading
(Instead of being bossy)

♦ Don’t be a “bossy boots”. Use good ideas and good reasons instead.

Term 3 Week 10
Be aware of your facial expressions

♦ Be aware of your facial expressions. (What are they really saying?)

Staff Development Day

Monday 7 September will be a professional learning day for the staff. There is no school for the children on this day.

The Staff of St Michael’s will be participating in an Evangelisation Day focusing on the Gospel of Mark, the four senses of Scripture and Renewing the Teaching of Religious Education in the classroom.

Sympathy

Please keep in your prayers the Komadina family on the passing of Dean’s (4 Yellow) maternal grandfather.

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

Enrolments 2016

Kindergarten enrolments
Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016 are currently being finalised and orientation letters will be posted by the end of Term 3.

Years 1-6 enrolments
Interviews are currently taking place for children who will join St Michael’s in Years 1-6, 2016.

Further Information
Please contact Mrs Isaac, Enrolments officer on 9639 0518.

Junior Elevate—Years 5 & 6
The Final Elevate for the Term is happening!
When: September 11th
Time: 7-9 pm (in the Downey Room)
See you then,

The Elevate Team

Baby News

Congratulations to Mr Kovolis and his wife on the birth of their son, Owen.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Sep</td>
<td>Fathers Day Gift Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Green &amp; 4 Yellow @ Parish Mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4 Sep</td>
<td>Jersey Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fathers Day Breakfast 7.30-9.00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Morning Tea 9.00-10.15 am</td>
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<td>Reading in the classroom 9.00-10.15 am</td>
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<td>Fathers Day Whole School Liturgy 10.30 am in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7 Sep</td>
<td>Staff Development Day– Pupil free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 8 Sep</td>
<td>2 Blue &amp; 2 Green Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Sep</td>
<td>6 Blue &amp; 6 Yellow Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Sep</td>
<td>1 Blue &amp; 1 Red Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Sep</td>
<td>School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Sep</td>
<td>Year 6 and Year 1 Buddy mass 10.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 12 Sep</td>
<td>P&amp;F Family carnival day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 14 Sep</td>
<td>Student &amp; Citizen of the Term Awards—2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 15 Sep</td>
<td>4 Blue &amp; 4 Red Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Sep</td>
<td>4 Green &amp; 4 Yellow Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 17 Sep</td>
<td>6 Green &amp; 6 Red Parish mass 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Sep</td>
<td>School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Sep</td>
<td>End of Term 3—School finishes at 3.10 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>School holidays 19 Sep—5 October</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 6 Oct</td>
<td>Term 4 School resumes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 9 Oct</td>
<td>School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 9 Oct</td>
<td>Kindergarten incursion—Brownyn Vaughn “Stories in the Shade of a Tree” 1.45—3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 16 Oct</td>
<td>Kindergarten Excursion—Calmsley Hill Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 16 Oct</td>
<td>Years 1-6 Catholic Missions Non Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am</td>
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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.
"Books light up our world" - Book Week 2015

It was a literature feast: ending with a bang on Friday afternoon! Rubén Meerman, "The surfing scientist" engaged students in K to 6 as he continued the theme ... How did he burst the black balloon inside the red balloon? (Maybe your child/ren can offer the explanation?).

St Michael's was awash with a multitude of characters on Wednesday for our traditional Book Character Parade. Congratulations to all the children and staff for their enthusiastic participation. The school band, capably led by Lucia, added so much to the atmosphere, as did all the parents who attended. Thank you for your support.

Authors Suzanne Gervay, Aleesah Darlison, Mark Greenwood, Frane Lessac, Valanga Khoza and Tony Murphy lit up our world in the classrooms and the hall. Year 3Green have written about Frane's visit in this newsletter. Here are some student thoughts about our other visitors -

"Ruben was amazing. he is very clever with what he does. He used lasers and balloons to perform cool, interesting and fun experiments." [John, 6B]

"Suzanne Gervay's talk about "I am Jack" was a heartwarming talk, teaching others not to bully!" [Natasha, 5R].

"Suzanne and her experience as an author is very inspiring and gives the right message to children." [Sophia, 5R]

"Mark [Greenwood] made me want to write my own books, to go and collect objects from the places where the history event has taken place." [Dulansa, 4R]

"Mark's books are about history, and he told us 'behind the scenes' stories". [Harrison, 4R]

"I liked his talk because it made me want to read more. The pictures are very creative." [Zayra, 4R]

"I liked it when he [Valanga Khoza] was jumping up and down telling us about his grandparents." [Abigail, 1G]

"I liked it when the 'scissors' musical instrument jabbed his bottom." [Sean, 1G]

[Tony Murphy] - On Thursday 20 August a very talented illustrator named Tony Murphy came to the Year 6 classrooms. Tony taught us some little tips and tricks to help our drawings look better. He began by guiding us step by step, showing us how to draw a cat jumping over a fence. We also drew SpongeBob and some caricatures. Tony was very inspiring and taught us some tricks to improve our drawing skills. [Callum A & James A, 6B]
New Literacy Resources

The school has just purchased $15,000 worth of guided reading books and home readers for Kindergarten and Year One. This is in addition to other new Literacy resources such as big books and novels purchased at the end of last year for the whole school.

Your role is critical to support your child’s progress and their love for reading.

Before reading with your children, take the time to discuss what they think the book is about and predict what might happen. Let them look at all the pictures to reinforce the meaning of the story. This helps to support the children’s comprehension skills and develop the vocabulary needed to read the book successfully on the first attempt. Rereading the same book several times supports the children’s fluency, expression and phrasing needed to be a confident reader.

Don’t be afraid to let your child use the pictures to help them with a word. As a child becomes a more proficient reader they won’t use that strategy as often; however, while they are in the early stages of learning to read, a picture is one of the ways that will support their predictions. For example:

*Buzzy Bee flew back to the blue flower.*  ‘Blue flower’ may be difficult to read. If a child has talked about the story and understands that the bee flew to a particular flower, the picture will help them to predict ‘blue’ as the colour. The child will then confirm their prediction by checking if the word starts with ‘bl’ and then reread the sentence to see if it makes sense.

Home readers aren’t the only way to teach reading. Develop your child’s love for books by reading good literature to and with your child [eg reading and sharing the book your child borrows weekly from our school library’s extensive collection]. These books provide a rich story base and expose the children to a world that maybe unfamiliar to them. Other books will teach them rhythm and rhyme that is not only fun but also supports spelling patterns and language structures.

Thank you to all the families who have supported the school fund raising days to make the purchasing of new school resources possible.

*Mrs Berenice Gerometta, Year One Leader of Learning*

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*NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION*

An E-news email is sent every second Thursday afternoon with the link to our website. Every alternate week an E-news email will be sent with the link to the school’s calendar. Due to a technical error, email addresses that contained the number “2” failed to send recently. This error has now been rectified and all parents should receive their E-news with Newsletter and School calendar link this week. We apologise for the inconvenience that occurred.

To ensure you receive the newsletter please ensure that we have your current email address and add St Michael’s to your contact list.

Please email us on stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have changed your email address.
**3 GREEN NEWS**

**Book Week - Illustrator Frane Lessac**

Frane gets her ideas from different places such as the museum, libraries and real life places like islands and different countries. She goes to all of these places and decides to make a story. She also hears stories from her friends and turns it into a book.

When Frane illustrates in her books she uses many things but she usually uses water colour pastels. She draws the ‘sloppy copy’ first then she turns it into the real thing. After she uses the special pastels, she gets some water and the brush and dips the brush into the water and brushes over the special pastels.

In Frane’s presentation, I liked how she showed us all her books and the places she has been to. I liked all the books that she showed me because some of her books are related to natural history.

She has made about 40 books so far and some of them are *The Greatest Liar on Earth*, *Moondyne Joe, A is for Australia, and Simpson and his Donkey*. Her first book was called *My Little Island*.

**By Rohan Hariman**
**Revamp your Crunch & Sip**

Children are more likely to enjoy their Crunch & Sip if their produce is fresh and delicious. Choose fruit and vegetables that are currently in season and that feel firm, smell nice and look appealing.

Did you know that good quality cranberries will bounce when dropped? While we don’t want children dropping good fruit on the ground, cranberries are full of Vitamin C, E and fibre so pop them in your child’s bag for Crunch & Sip.

Crunch & Sip does not have to be limited to school days. Encourage your children to crunch on fruit & vegetables and drink plenty of water over the weekend and during holidays. Don’t forget to join in! Be a positive role model by enjoying Crunch & Sip with your kids as you set them up for a lifetime of healthy eating habits.

Involve your child in choosing the fruit & veg that you buy at the supermarket. Remind them that they need to choose fruit & veg that can be eaten easily and eaten raw. Use this as an opportunity to discuss different types of fruit & vegetables and encourage them to try unfamiliar ones.

Choose fresh fruits & vegetables over dried and tinned varieties for Crunch & Sip. Dried & tinned fruits contain more sugar than fresh fruits so only have those occasionally. Muesli bars, roll ups and fruit leathers have far too much sugar and not enough actual fruit so they are not allowed for Crunch & Sip.

A few chopped up pieces of honeydew are a great idea for Crunch & Sip as they are full of Vitamin C, potassium and fibre. Give them to your kids when the flesh is ripe and green in colour as this is when they are at their sweetest.

Strawberries are always a favourite with children due to their sweet taste. To keep them sweet and looking their best, remove them from their punnets, when you get home, and place them on a paper towel on a plate and cover it with cling wrap.

Cherry tomatoes are great for Crunch & Sip as they can be eaten without creating a mess. Don’t make the common mistake of placing them in the fridge, leave them at room temperature until they are very ripe, then place them in the fridge.

Crunch & Sip is a good opportunity for children to stay hydrated as they lose fluid running around and being active, especially over the summer months. Over the warmer months, a cold drink bottle is ideal for hydration but also keeps lunchbox food items cool.

You know you have to pack a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for your child to eat each day. It’s easy to get stuck in a rut.

*Mrs Berenice Gerometta, Year 1 Leader of Learning*

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**Complaints and Grievances Policy**

1. **Rationale**
   At St Michael’s Primary School, Baulkham Hills, the dignity of each individual is valued and the rights and beliefs of all members of the community are respected.

2. **Aims**
   However, from time to time concerns may arise between different groups within the school community. At St Michael’s we aim to attempt resolution as soon as any concerns arise.

3. **Implementation**

   **Parents**
   Complaints or grievances pertaining to classroom issues or that relate to other children are to be dealt with by school personnel. It is not appropriate for parents to approach other children or other parents while on school premises to resolve issues.
   The recommended procedure to be followed by parents is:
   3.1 The first point of contact is the child’s class teacher. An appointment with the teacher should be made via the school office or directly with the teacher.
   3.2 If parents are not satisfied with the solutions offered or believe they have not been given a fair hearing, they are encouraged to make an appointment with either the principal or assistant principal, to discuss the issue further.
   3.3 Parents are reminded that there are always two sides to every story and while it is important to listen to their own child, it is also just as important not to draw conclusions or make accusations until all the facts are known.
   3.4 Parents may also contact Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta for further discussion.
   3.5 All parties should aim to work towards a mutually agreeable solution to the grievance.

   **Students**
   The recommended procedure for students who have complaints or grievances is:
   3.6 If and when issues arise in the classroom, students are encouraged to speak to the class teacher in order to seek assistance in finding a resolution.
   3.7 Students encountering problems on the playground are asked to talk to the staff member on duty, who will then, if necessary, refer it to the class teacher or one of the school’s Leadership team.
   3.8 Students may also speak to any other staff member regarding any issues.

4. **Evaluation**
   Policy to be evaluated by staff in Term 4 of each year.
REMINDER!
Rides Arm Band Pre-Sales!

Pre-sale available STRICTLY until Fri 4th September at $20 each
Otherwise it is $25.00 per arm band after that date or $5.00 per ride on the day.
A variety of rides to cater for all ages. HUGE savings in which rides will be operating for 5 hrs which is equal to $5.00 per hour, really worth the value to pre-purchase.
All arm bands will be issued on the day of the Carnival.... We look forward to seeing you!
- P&F Committee
Any enquiries can be directed to Marina Grainger at pandfstmichaels@gmail.com

Please return to the office in an envelope marked Family Carnival Fun Day - Ride Arm Bands 😊
Arm Bands are $20 each strictly from Mon 10th August until Fri 4th September and will be issued on the day of the Carnival.
Child’s Name: ................................................................. Class: .........................No. of arm bands: .......................
Total enclosed ☐ $20, ☐ $40, ☐ $60, ☐ $80, ☐ Other .................................
☐ Cash or ☐ Cheque payable to “St Michael’s P&F” please.
Email address: ........................................................................................... Contact phone: .................................................................

(P&F use only) Receipt # ...............................................................................

Helpers!

We are looking for any helpers that may be able to assist on Family Carnival Day.
We have the P&F BBQ and some other food stalls that will need some extra hands throughout the day. Please contact Sally Carey ccarey74@optusnet.com.au if you can spare half an hour or an hour.
**St Michael’s Softball Club**

**Registration Open**

We currently have vacancies in our teams and are looking for players! For our U7 to Opens team – boys & girls!

Softball is a great sport for all levels of skill and is a fun way to play with friends.

Registration fees are: U7 - $80; U9/U11 - $120; U13/U17 - $140; U19 - $155; Opens $165

All new U7 to U11 players receive a free glove, ball and backpack.

**Further Information**, please contact Julianne McCaffery 
secretary@stmichaelssoftballclub.com, or go to our website www.stmichaels.softball.org.au

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**Woolworths Earn & Learn**

St Michael’s is participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn Program. This community program enables schools to earn educational resources when anyone from the school community shops at Woolworths. The program closes on **Tuesday 8 September** and we will send all the completed sticker cards to Woolworths.

Thank you to all the children and families who have been collecting stickers and sent them in already. Our school will be able to choose resources across all curriculum areas from Modern Teaching Aids.

If you shop at Woolworths we hope that you will be able to support St Michael’s with the Earn and Learn Program. Further information can be obtained from the school office on 9639 0518.

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**Uniform shop**

Open every Thursday: 8.30 am—1.00 pm

Uniform price list form is 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 and sent home via your child.

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**Inspire Program Australia**

Inspire. Because your kids deserve the best!

**Homework and tuition**

Kids don’t just do their homework—they also participate in Inspire’s unique Learn and Grow tuition program, which is designed to provide kids with valuable revision and extension activities. It’s a fantastic way to stay on top of class work; develop new skills and learn to work independently.

**A martial arts lesson**

Enhanced by a 2” Dan black belt, our program draws on skill sets from kickboxing, mixed martial arts and ju jitsu and is non-contact, safe and fun. Not only is it great exercise, it builds confidence, self-discipline and discipline.

**Flyers Brochures Business Cards Newsletters Posters Catalogues Printing Invitations: Wedding Engagement Birthday Baby Children All Occasions**

www.powwowgraphicsdesign.com.au • 0419 432 511

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This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: www.stmichaelsbhills.parra.catholic.edu.au