From the Principal

Dear Parents

World Teachers’ Day 2015—Teachers as learners

On Friday 30 October we celebrate World Teachers’ Day and the role teachers play “in loco parentis” (in the place of a parent) while your children are at school.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela

“One child, one teacher, one pen, one book can change the world.” Malala Yousafzai

Teachers are learners—they learn about their students, how to engage them, how to improve their learning. Teachers need to be well educated, especially in their core teaching area; however, they also need knowledge which is much less static than facts, figures and rules. Student learning is much more than the acquisition of specific pieces of information through repetition, memorisation, and the testing of recall. Effective teachers see that student learning has more to do with understanding concepts and being able to apply these to problem-solving. They develop the creative and critical thinking skills of their students, and teachers continually revise their teaching practice and strategies based on what they learn and observe. Teachers learn and teach using technology and innovation.

The more we learn about learning and the more teachers learn about students’ learning, the more important and influential teaching becomes.

Your child’s teacher is there to nurture them, to support them and to challenge them in their learning.

World Teachers’ Day is a time when we should make an effort to give feedback to the teachers. We are open to your suggestions and input when it comes to your child’s education. Any positive feedback or acknowledgement to your child’s classroom teacher will always be gratefully accepted.

Teachers do a wonderful job and on Friday we would like to formally congratulate and thank our teachers for their generous support and commitment to the learning of the children at St Michael’s.

Stop and Drop Coordinator position

In our last issue we mentioned that our morning Stop and Drop coordinator, Mrs Debbie Grehan who has coordinated the Stop and Drop Volunteers for the last three years, will not be continuing in this role next year. Thank you Mrs Grehan for your time and commitment to this role on a voluntary basis. We are indeed very grateful to you for your valuable contribution to our community.

I also take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have assisted the parents and children this year. We value your contribution and we would ask that our children and parents take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers as they go about providing this service in the mornings, particularly in the remaining weeks before Christmas.

As the Stop and Drop is a parent volunteer service, we will need someone to coordinate the roster for volunteers in 2016 so that this service can be provided. If you would like to take on this voluntary role, please contact the school office on 9639 0518.

God of love and goodness, you raise up good people who sow with their lives that they follow the gospel of your Son, Jesus.

Fill us with your grace, so that our lives and our words will be as true as our faith.

May we grow more and more in your son’s likeness.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.
Religious Education News

Sacramental Programme 2016

A compulsory meeting for Parents presenting their children for any of the sacraments next year, ie: Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation, will take place:

Either Monday 16 or Tuesday 17 November 2015 @ 7:30 pm in the church.

After a brief break, there will be parent registration for the Reconciliation Programme which will take place in Term 1, 2016. If you are intending to register your son or daughter, you must attend.

Year of Consecrated Life

This year Pope Francis has dedicated the Year of Consecrated Life.

Each one of us are called to be consecrated to God, as the call to Holiness is a universal call. Today, more than ever we are reminded of the state of our world, and how there is a great need for our world to become holy. The world will be holy when countries are holy, and countries will be holy when people are holy. So let’s be encouraged by the invitation to become holy and joyful men and women.

In his message for the year of Consecrated Life, Pope Francis points out that it is through our lives that we point to the reality of God and that we can offer an alternative to the mirage of the various utopias that are presented by the world.

HOLINESS IS NOT SOMETHING WE CAN GET FOR OURSELVES, OR OBTAIN WITH OUR OWN TALENTS AND ABILITIES. Holiness is a gift from Jesus and we receive and rediscover holiness when we are in communion with God. Jesus desires that we come closer to Him so that He can make us holy.

Pope Francis also makes the point very clearly that consecrated life is not just reserved for a privileged few. To be consecrated is not only for the bishops, nuns, missionaries and priests. IT’S FOR EVERYONE. Being consecrated to God is a process of becoming holy; becoming more Godlike and striving to live out the values of the Gospel.

As a school community we are grateful of the many men and women who dedicated their lives in service of their faith, helping to spread the good news of the Gospel.

Mr David Ison, REC Coordinator

Social Skills and Mantras Program

Term 4 Week 5
Compassion

♦ Feeling sorrow or pity for others who are having difficulties.

Term 4 Week 6
Integrity

♦ Being honest and following your principles.

Enrolments 2016

Kindergarten enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016 have been finalised. Parent information evening and Orientation Days are outlined in the school’s calendar dates.

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.

2016—Families leaving St Michael’s at the end of the year

If your family is not returning to St Michael’s for Years 1-6 in 2016, please let Mrs Maka, Principal, know as soon as possible.

We will be looking at placing students in classes for 2016 in Term 4.

Band and Choir Photographs

Parents can now purchase these group photos online.

To do so parents will need to visit the photographers website: www.leadingimage.com.au, click on the tab ‘Order Your School Photos’ and enter the following Shoot Key: NVZ5LB76. All orders will need to be placed directly with the photographer.

A proof of the photos will be placed on the windows outside the school office for viewing.

6Z Green

In Year 6, we have been busy working on our life stories. A lot of work and preparation goes into making each folder and each page. We have to type or write about each year at school, even if you weren’t at St Michael’s at the time. We can also include things we want to put in, like letters or origami. We write the life stories so we can always remember our fun years at primary school. They are presented to our parents at the Graduation Mass at the end of the year, as a gift.
### DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Fri 30 Oct | School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall  
Beginner Band playing at Assembly                                    |
| Fri 30 Oct | Year 6 School Photo                                                                             |
| Fri 30 Oct | Year 1 Non Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am                                                           |
| Tue 3 Nov  | 3 Yellow & 3 Blue, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                            |
| Wed 4 Nov  | 2 Green & 2 Blue, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                            |
| Wed 4 Nov  | P&F Meeting 7.00 pm Postponed                                                                      |
| Thu 4 Nov  | 3 Green & 3 Red, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                               |
| Fri 6 Nov  | School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall                                                                |
| Fri 6 Nov  | Year 2 Non Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am                                                           |
| Mon 9 Nov  | 6 Green Rice Day                                                                                |
| Mon 9 Nov  | Kindergarten 2016 Parent Information Evening School Hall 7 pm                                    |
| Tue 10 Nov | 6 Red Rice Day                                                                                  |
| Tue 10 Nov | 4 Yellow & 4 Green, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                            |
| Tue 10 Nov | Kindergarten Orientation Day  
Group 1—9.30-11.30 am  
Group 2—12.30-2.30 pm                                       |
| Wed 11 Nov | Remembrance Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am                                                  |
| Thu 12 Nov | Years 2-6 Swimming Carnival, Waves Aquatic Centre                                                  |
| Thu 12 Nov | 1 Yellow & 1 Green, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                            |
| Thu 12 Nov | Kindergarten Orientation Day  
Group 1—9.30-11.30 am  
Group 2—12.30-2.30 pm                                       |
|Fri 13 Nov  | School Assembly 8.50 am School Hall                                                                |
| Tue 17 Nov | 1 Red & 1 Blue, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                                                 |
| Wed 18 Nov | 6 Blue Rice Day                                                                                  |
| Wed 18 Nov | K Blue, K Red & 5 Blue, 5 Red Buddies, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                       |
| Thu 19 Nov | 6 Yellow Rice Day                                                                                |
| Thu 19 Nov | K Green, K Yellow & 5 Green, 5 Yellow Buddies, Parish Mass 9.15 am                                |

**Advance notice:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Dec</td>
<td>End of Year Whole School Mass—10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Dec</td>
<td>School concludes for 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 27 Jan-Thu 28 Jan</td>
<td>Mathematics Assessment Interviews—Kindergarten to Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29 Jan</td>
<td>Years 1-6 commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1 Feb</td>
<td>Kindergarten commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The school’s calendar is available on our website:  
[stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

---

**Band**

The Beginner Band will be performing a couple of songs at the Week 4 Assembly, Friday 30 October.

*Mrs Lucia Bichara, Band coordinator*

---

**Slow & Go**

We have received a complaint regarding Slow & Go and the bus bay at Crestwood High School being blocked by drivers from our school.

- The majority of drivers are currently lining up and leaving the bus bay free whilst in the queue.

- Unfortunately, cars are driving past the queued cars and going into the bus bay space which is not allowing the buses to get in and out of the space and causing distress to parents who are doing the right thing by leaving the bus bay free for buses. **Please do not park in the bus bay at Crestwood** as this is compromising the safety of all in this area—particularly children who are on foot and causing difficulty for the bus driver.

- Be aware as you join the Slow & Go queue that you need to join at the back of the queue, leave the bus bay free and continue on to the Slow & Go gates safely as the queue moves.

Slow & Go gates are open until 3.40 pm.

---

**Back path**

Please ensure that you walk to the back path to collect your children in the afternoon, particularly children in the younger grades.

Children in younger grades without a sibling need to be collected by their parents at the back gate. Any child not picked up by a parent is brought back to Slow and Go.

For the consideration of our neighbours, please move out of the area as soon as possible and ensure that your children are not running through lawns. Please be mindful of the cars that are moving in and out of this area and the supervision of your children to ensure their safety at all times.

---

**Early collection of children from school**

If there is a need to collect your child early from school, please send a note to the classroom teacher in the morning and proceed to the school office when you arrive. On your arrival at the school office, staff will contact the class teacher and your child will then meet you at the school office. While you are waiting for your child, you will be asked to sign them out of the school.

Parents are not permitted to go directly to classrooms or other areas to collect their children.

---

**School calendar**

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.
Children’s e-Safety Commissioner website

In July the Office of the Children’s e-Safety Commissioner launched its website: https://www.esafety.gov.au which provides comprehensive information and resources to combat cyberbullying of young people and illegal/offensive online content.

The website provides information and avenues for complaint/action/resilience building:
- eSafety Legislation and Compliance
- Complaints and Reporting
- eSafety information on sexting, cyberbullying, online gaming, social networking
- Classroom, school and parent resources
- Social Media Regulation

It is important to note that if a social media site is involved in bullying conduct, a complainant must first make a report to the social media operator before making a complaint to the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner.

A complainant must preserve evidence of the offensive material to support a complaint. Social Media operators include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Ask.fm, Flickr and Google+.

In the first 3 months of operation, the Office of the Children’s e-Safety Commissioner resolved 40 cases of online bullying, referred 624 children to the Kids Helpline, and had removed over 2000 pieces of illegal content from websites.

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.

Students of the Week

Term 4—Week 2
- KBlue Maiya House
- KGreen Bellan Cannone
- KRed Siella Nassour
- KYellow Jake Rutar
- 1Blue Oakley Woof
- 1Green Cooper Smith
- 1Red Jackson Roberts
- 1Yellow Billie Gwynne
- 2Blue Levi Morrison
- 2Green Harrison Habib
- 2Red Alyssa Romeo
- 2Yellow Maddison Zaitony
- 3Blue Georgia Scollard
- 3Green Annabelle Mison
- 3Red Rylee Robinson
- 3Yellow Robert McKay
- 4Blue Kyra Lau
- 4Green Hannah McGoldrick
- 4Red Cooper James
- 4Yellow Aaron Bruton
- 5Blue Natasha Hardy
- 5Green Andrew Norris
- 5Red Ben Chapman
- 5Yellow Noah Stefanakis
- 6Blue Frank Julca
- 6Green Caleb Piper
- 6Red Alana Curran-Jones
- 6Yellow Aramic Joukhadar

Term 4—Week 3
- KBlue Ava Galana
- KGreen Aidan Spada
- KRed Asher Yoon
- KYellow Jessica Mackay
- 1Blue Isaacs Thomas
- 1Green Harrison Shand
- 1Red Liam Bellomo
- 1Yellow Jackson Carlos
- 2Blue Rawson Emanuel
- 2Green Ysus Perez-Christie
- 2Red Isabella Botros
- 2Yellow Elle Chammass
- 3Blue Sebastian Charon
- 3Green Benjamin Apps
- 3Red Tyron Hapenny
- 3Yellow Caelan Kustreba
- 4Blue Joseph Grasso
- 4Green Eliza Flood
- 4Red Alana Burke
- 4Yellow Mia Saad
- 5Blue Jake Herden
- 5Green Leila Bozic
- 5Red Emma Boutros
- 5Yellow Anneke van Zoggel
- 6Blue Joshua Fox
- 6Green Hunter Clifford
- 6Red Kirilee Stanmore
- 6Yellow Olivia Bodnar

Students of the Week

Term 4—Week 3
- KBlue Maiya House
- KGreen Bellan Cannone
- KRed Siella Nassour
- KYellow Jake Rutar
- 1Blue Oakley Woof
- 1Green Cooper Smith
- 1Red Jackson Roberts
- 1Yellow Billie Gwynne
- 2Blue Levi Morrison
- 2Green Harrison Habib
- 2Red Alyssa Romeo
- 2Yellow Maddison Zaitony
- 3Blue Georgia Scollard
- 3Green Annabelle Mison
- 3Red Rylee Robinson
- 3Yellow Robert McKay
- 4Blue Kyra Lau
- 4Green Hannah McGoldrick
- 4Red Cooper James
- 4Yellow Aaron Bruton
- 5Blue Natasha Hardy
- 5Green Andrew Norris
- 5Red Ben Chapman
- 5Yellow Noah Stefanakis
- 6Blue Frank Julca
- 6Green Caleb Piper
- 6Red Alana Curran-Jones
- 6Yellow Aramic Joukhadar

Sport Award
Matthew Mackay

Music Awards
Jessica Grove, Bronte Kenny, Zane Dwyer, Jonathan Drury, Emily Woodroffe, Zyara Plebani

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.
Like friendly competition?

Mum & Dad’s night out!

Saturday 21st November 2015 - 7.30pm

In the school hall

CHRISTMAS THEME!

Games • Prizes • Huge Mystery Key Raffle + More!

• $10 per ticket. Create your own table (10 per table).
• Or we can place you on a table.
• BYO alcohol and nibbles. Or buy nibbles on the night from our cafe.
• 18+ years only.
• Sorry no children - it’s Mum & Dad’s night out!
• Bring family, neighbours, friends, work colleagues, other parents at the school, sports clubs.
• Eftpos will be available on the night.

The following businesses have generously donated prizes!

Get a photo with Santa!

Like friendly competition?

Professional trivia host!

Loads of fun & laughs!

P.T.O.
Easy!

- Pick a table name and dress up Christmas theme! Be creative!
- Fill in the form on the back of this page!
- Person initiating the table (Table Coordinator) to send cheque, or bank deposit with completed details on this note to school by **Monday 9th November**.
- You will receive a confirmation of receipt of payment by email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your eldest child’s name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Person organising the table - Table Coordinator is 1) ________________________________

Your mobile number (must include mobile) ________________________________

Your email (must include email) ____________________________________________

Your table name is _____________________________ OR ☐ Please put me on a table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of your table’s players:</th>
<th>2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☐ Cheque to “St Michael’s P&F” $100

- OR -

☐ Direct Bank Deposit $100

You *MUST* Leave your surname as the statement text otherwise it will not be possible to identify your payment

M. Barton

BSB 732164

ACC 525827

Total: $__________
**Canteen News**

- New canteen menu is out for summer. Apologies for the incorrect start date for the summer menu. The new canteen menu started on 6 October 2015.
- Please ensure you are ordering from correct menu.
- Please note—money must accompany the order. Canteen is unable to provide credit.

The Canteen menu is on our website at the following location: [http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes)

---

**OLMC Parramatta Mercy Scholarships**

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta is now accepting applications for Mercy Scholarships for Academic Excellence and Music Excellence. Girls entering Years 7, 9 or 11 in 2017 are invited to apply. Visit the College website [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) for more information.

---

**OLMC Mercy Music & Performance Academy**

Is your child interested in music or dance? The new Mercy Music & Performance Academy at OLMC Parramatta offers a range of tuition and workshop options for young people from Years 3 to Year 12. A survey is currently being conducted to understand the needs and interests of families in our local area – please help us create a program that best fosters musical and dance talent by completing the following survey [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademysurvey](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademysurvey). Your assistance if greatly appreciated. The survey will be open until October 30, 2015.

---

**PRC—Parents Representative Council**

Term 4, 2015—Monday 16 November

(General Meeting)

Presentation:

All students are gifted and talented—Identifying personalised pathways to success

Presenters:

Tim Hardy (Team Leader—Numeracy, CEDP) and Anthony McElhone (Principal, St Oliver’s, Harris Park)

Further enquiries contact: prcparrasecretary@gmail.com

Website: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)

---

**Uniform shop**

Open every Thursday:

8.30 am—1.00 pm

Uniform price list form is available on our website at the following location:


---

**OLMC Mercy Music & Performance Academy**

Is your child interested in music or dance? The new Mercy Music & Performance Academy at OLMC Parramatta offers a range of tuition and workshop options for young people from Years 3 to Year 12. A survey is currently being conducted to understand the needs and interests of families in our local area – please help us create a program that best fosters musical and dance talent by completing the following survey [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademysurvey](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademysurvey). Your assistance if greatly appreciated. The survey will be open until October 30, 2015.

---

**We believe a great tutor does more than just teach.**

- Inspirational Mentors
- Personalised 1 to 1 tuition
- In the comfort of your home

**Art of Smart**

1300 267 888

---

**Martial Arts for Kids**

Grand Master Inchool Yoo

9th Dan Black Belt

Start a new life with a positive attitude

- Discipline
- Confidence
- Concentration
- Self Defence
- Bully safety accredited

TAEKWONDO WORLD

5 Gladstone Rd, Castle Hill

Martial Arts School

8850 7771

---

This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: [www.stmichaelsbhills.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.parra.catholic.edu.au)