From the Principal

Dear Parents

As we approach the end of what has been an extremely busy term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our families for their support, the teachers for their continued dedication and hard work, and the P&F who continue to amaze us with the various events that help to build community spirit in our school. These events contribute to making this a welcoming and supportive community.

Assistant Principal

Mrs Rosalie Knispel will be on sick leave for the whole of Term 2. Parents will be informed as soon as an Acting Assistant Principal has been appointed. Please keep Mrs Knispel in your prayers.

Cyclone Marcia

Thank you for your response to the plight of the people in the Rockhampton Diocese who have been affected by Cyclone Marcia. $450 has been raised which will go to support these families and communities.

Building works

Our Years 3 and 4 children and teachers have settled into their new building and are delighted with the new learning spaces. The new office building and entry into the school is underway and we are looking forward to being in these new premises by the end of May/early June.

Enrolments

The Catholic Education Office has changed the Enrolment form and process. Parents can now access the Enrolment form online as well as collecting an Enrolment pack from the school office.

St Michael’s is currently enrolling children for Kindergarten-Year 6 2016. Enrolment interviews for Kindergarten 2016 have commenced and will continue after the holidays.

Reflection

During this term we have continued to advocate our traditional values of respect, honesty, loyalty, generosity, cooperation and support for each other. We have challenged our students to achieve to the best of their ability. In this Lenten season we have encouraged the children to rise above pure self-interest and to discover the worth of putting others ahead of themselves through supporting Project Compassion and their commitment to a Lenten promise. The virtue of selflessness is perfectly consistent with the teaching and example of Christ himself. Easter is a great season for reflecting on that ideal.

A number of years ago the Sydney Morning Herald carried an Easter article from which the following is an extract . . .

“Throughout this whole struggle Christ retained integrity and honour. Nothing deflected Him from His chosen inner determination to be faithful to the truth. He remained true within when no one was looking or listening. Always He put the purposes of God and the needs of people first.

Every society needs people who live above and beyond self-interest, who remain faithful to the truth whatever the cost. The Easter story shows those standards can be achieved.

There is a down-drag which pulls at every life. It is easy to slacken within, to compromise, to rationalise. The inner victory of Jesus strengthens the moral fortitude of all who come near to Him. The life and death of Jesus reveal the power of evil. Jesus of Nazareth was the man beyond compare.”

Perhaps this article leads us, the people of the Resurrection, to the challenge as presented by Teresa of Avila:

“Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands on earth but our hands.
Ours are the eyes through which He looks out with compassion upon the world.
Ours the feet with which he chooses to go about doing good.
For us He is the head so we are the members.
And all are one in Christ Jesus.”

Wishing you every blessing for the Easter season.

Damita Maka
**Religious Education News**

Over the past fortnight, I have had the pleasure of visiting a number of classrooms across the school.

In 4 Red the children were learning about the importance of the 10 commandments in shaping the way we live our daily lives. The children read the passage from the Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17. Time was taken to contextualise the scripture. At the beginning of the lesson the children took time to further develop their religious literacy skills by participating in a partner question and answer quiz. The idea being that the children in pairs help each other with their understanding of key terms and facts. It was great to see the children encouraging one another.

In 1 Blue the children looked at Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-9). After reading and discussing the scripture passage the children were asked to dramatise the passage taking on key roles. As each group presented to the class, Mrs Irvine-Hendry asked questions, encouraging the children to think about the perspective of each of the key scriptural figures. It was great to see the children working cooperatively with one another.

In my visits to 5 Yellow and 5 Green the children spent time reading and reflecting upon Mark 12:28-34 - The Greatest Commandment. The children were trying to clarify what Jesus said are the two most important commandments. It was great to see and hear the children engaging in the discussion.

In Kindergarten Yellow the children were encouraged to think about what they could do to be a better person, as part of their Lenten promise. The children listened to the reading of scripture. (John12 : 26 ) – “Being a Good Seed”. It was great to see the children thinking about how they can be more like Jesus by carrying out their Lenten Promise.

In 1 Yellow the children began the lesson by reviewing their understanding of key religious literacy terms identified on their class word wall by matching words to visual pictures. The children then went on to listen to the reading of the Last Supper (Mark 14:22-26). The learning intention of the lesson was to help the children to deepen their understanding of the significance of the last supper. The children looked at the way we remember and celebrate what Jesus asked us all to do in the celebration of the Eucharist.

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross**

A big thank you to all the children who will be participating in the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. You have done a great job to help all those who will see this important scriptural reflection, to deepen their understanding of the enormous sacrifice Jesus made for us all.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children who participated in our Holy Week reflections on Tuesday and Wednesday. All of the children involved did a wonderful job in helping us all to focus our attention on the Easter Triduum.

**Invitation to Enrol - First Communion Preparation 2015**

Registration evenings for First Communion will be held on Monday 4 May and Tuesday 5 May at 7.30 pm in St Michael’s Church. For children (Year 4 and above) who have completed the sacrament of Reconciliation at a Church other than St Michael’s Baulkham Hills, a copy of the child’s baptismal certificate will need to be provided at the time of registration. Please note there is a cost of $20 payable at registration.

**Volunteers Required - First Communion**

We are seeking Facilitators and home hosts from our Parish/School community. If you are able to offer your help in facilitating and or hosting a home group for our parish based Programme which will commence on 25 May please phone the parish office on 9639 0598. The first Facilitators’ Meeting will be held in the Downey Room on Monday 18 May at 7.30 pm

Our School formation goal in 2015 is looking at deepening the children's understanding of Scripture. Throughout this year teachers will be engaging the children with learning experiences that help to develop the children's understanding of the scripture message and its application to their daily lives. Every classroom has a word wall which is used by the children to help deepen their understanding of key religious literacy words.

**Mr David Ison, REC Coordinator**

**Social Skills and Mantras Program**

The mantra for Term 2 Week 1 is:

**Dobbing verses Telling**

- Are you dobbing or telling?
- “Dobbing” is when you are trying to get someone into trouble.
- “Telling” is when you are getting your EARLY WARNING SIGNS. You feel unsafe, so you must tell some one you trust who will listen to you. At school this is a teacher.

The social skill for Term 2 Week 2 is:

**The Circle Concept**

The ‘Circle Concept’ teaches a child about personal space and appropriate behaviour with others, depending on what their relationship is to the child.
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 2 Apr</td>
<td>School finishes for the End of Term 1 at 3.10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Apr</td>
<td>Staff Development Day—staff only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 21 Apr</td>
<td>Classes resume—students return for Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Apr—Thu 23 Apr</td>
<td>Student / Parent / Teacher conferences for classes 1R Red and 20C Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Anzac Day Liturgy: 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Photo Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 1 May</td>
<td>School Assembly 8.50 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 1 May</td>
<td>Debating Rd 1 v St Bernadette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4 May—Thu 7 May</td>
<td>Student / Parent / Teacher conferences all classes except 1R Red, 20C Yellow, 4G Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4 May</td>
<td>First Holy Communion Registration evening: 7.30-8.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 5 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Blue Cares Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 5 May</td>
<td>First Holy Communion Registration evening: 7.30-8.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 6 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Red Cares Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 6 May</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting: 7.00-8.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 7 May</td>
<td>P&amp;F Mothers’ Day Gift Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 7 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Yellow Cares Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 8 May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Non Eucharistic Liturgy: 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Morning Tea, Hall: 11.15 am—12.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11 May</td>
<td>Changeover to Winter Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 12 May</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 5 NAPLAN Testing—Language and Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 13 May</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 5 NAPLAN Testing—Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 13 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Reconciliation: 10.00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 14 May</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 5 NAPLAN Testing—Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 14 May</td>
<td>Year 2 Maritime Museum—2 Blue &amp; 2 Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 May</td>
<td>School Assembly: 8.50 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 May</td>
<td>Year 1 Wildlife World &amp; Sydney Aquarium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 May</td>
<td>Year 2 Maritime Museum—2 Red &amp; 2 Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Green Cares Excursion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Monday 20 April is a professional learning day for the staff. The staff will spend the day working with the new Curriculum for English.

**BAND NEWS**

Reminder—All beginner band members start early morning band rehearsal from Wednesday 22 April at 7.45 am. Please meet outside the Hall.

Lucia Bichara, Band Director

---

**2016 ENROLLING NOW**

Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2016 can be collected from the school office.

**Enrolment at St Michael’s Primary**

Enrolment at St Michael’s Primary Catholic Primary School includes your return of the **Enrolment Application** with supporting documentation including copies of the following:

- Passport photo of your child (original)
- Birth Certificate*
- Baptism Certificate*
- Immunisation History Statement* (visit [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au) or call 1800 653 809 and request your statement)
- Passport with visa* (if not Australian Citizens).

*Originals of all documents must be sighted at the interview or upon lodgement of the Enrolment Application via the school office.

It is essential that both parents/guardians sign the different sections of the Enrolment Application.

When you return your Enrolment form, you will be invited for an interview. Both parents/guardians and child are asked to attend this interview.

The school office will contact you to organise a time for this interview early in Term 2.

**Further Information**

For further enquiries please contact the school office on 9639 0518.

---

Thank you to the Loveridge family (Matthew, Jack and Megan) for their contribution of a Wollemi Pine to the school.

---

**Please do not bring Nuts or Nut products to school**

Due to a number of children with allergies to nuts, we ask that you do not send your child to school with products containing nuts, e.g. Nutella, peanut butter or any item containing nuts or traces of nuts. The canteen does not sell any products with nuts.
Citizen of the Term
Term 1

6A Yellow  Lachlan Barron
6R Red    Madison Nye
6Z Green  Daniel Virski
6F Blue   Hannah Cox
5DD Yellow  Jackson Flood
5M Red    Tony Khoury
5J Green  Olivia Hanna
5X Blue   Melissa Cassar
4I Yellow William Johns
4C Red    Monique Papadopoulos
4G Green  Teresa Tanna
4S Blue   Mia Cox
3BT Yellow  Alexia Anezis
3M Red    William Cowling
3H Green  Rohan Hariman
3B Blue   Zachary Humе
2OC Yellow Mary Boutros
2P Red    Patrick Johns
2HS Green Samuel Kable
2K Blue   Elizabeth Semenov
1FM Yellow Lucianne Mansour
1R Red    Michael Dinos
1S Green  Andrew Saliba
1H Blue   Mary-Lilian Bassili
KT Yellow Noah Woods
KR Red    Oscar Wills
KvG Green Angus Herriott
KQ Blue   Emily Ryan

Student of the Term
Term 1

6A Yellow  Brooke Curran
6R Red    Joshua Zarb
6Z Green  Lara Cappetta
6F Blue   Isabelle Roberts
5DD Yellow  Georgia Cowling
5M Red    Tayla Barton
5J Green  David Kennedy
5X Blue   Patrick Horner
4I Yellow Madison O’Brien
4C Red    Jasmine Patanjali
4G Green  Kaia D’Souza
4S Blue   Charlotte Stewart
3BT Yellow  Thomas Williams
3M Red    Imogen Leahy
3H Green  Audrey Martinez
2OC Yellow Oscar Cheah
2P Red    Celina Sukkar
2HS Green Marisa Pizzonia
2K Blue   John-Paul Agnas
1FM Yellow Samuel Zaitony
1R Red    Emily Kos
1S Green  Mia Yates
1H Blue   Julia Worsley
KT Yellow Georgia Roberts
KR Red    Lillian McCaughey
KvG Green Grace O’Sullivan O’Connell
KQ Blue   Alexander Vasquez

5M Red News

Ten Commandments Six Word Stories

God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. You shall believe in one God. God's commandments are like his laws. They show us how to live. We follow in the Lord’s footsteps. Do not disobey your Lord, God. God's laws to get to heaven. God's rules are all about respecting.

Love God with all your heart. God is very powerful and strong. Adultery is a very bad thing. False witness is lying and disrespectful. You shouldn't take things for granted. Pray to God with great power. Pray to God for eternal life.

God gave 10 Commandments to Moses. To show us how to live. Moses received them on Mount Sinai. Love your neighbour as I did. You shall believe in one God. Don't disobey the laws of God. Jesus made up a new commandment.

School Band Holiday Workshop
Do you have bored children sitting around the house during the Easter School Holidays?

Is getting your child to practise their instrument becoming a chore?

Why not consider coming along to one of TSA’s Easter Holiday Combined Band Workshops?! These workshops are all the best bits of regular Band Camp (minus the waterslide and disco!) rolled into the one day. For most beginners it will be their first introduction to band and for our senior students it will be a chance to join together with other senior students from other schools and tackle some more challenging repertoire. For more information and to enrol for the workshop, please visit:

www.teachingservices.com.au

SKOOLBAG

We have added a new category to Skoolbag App, Sport, which will be used to provide information if sport events are cancelled due to bad weather.

If you are an existing user you may now wish to add this category to your list.

If you would like to subscribe to this free service go 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.

UNIFORM SHOP
Open every Thursday
8.30 am to 1.00 pm
during the Term

* * * * *

Uniform shop closed during the school holiday break
* * * * *

Winter Uniform commences Monday 11 May
* * * * *

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 Thursday and sent home with your child.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Science—Wednesday 3 June
English—Tuesday 28 July
Mathematics—Tuesday 11 August

School Terms 2015

Term 2:
Tuesday, 21 April to Friday, 26 June

Term 3:
Monday, 13 July to Friday, 18 September

Term 4:
Tuesday, 6 October to Friday, 18 December
NAPLAN TESTS—12-14 May 2015

NAPLAN is an annual national assessment that provides parents, schools and policy makers with an important snapshot of information and how well students are performing in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class. Teachers use these results to meet the individual literacy and numeracy needs of all students.

NAPLAN takes just a few hours out of a few days every year, and has become a routine part of the school calendar.

NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another day in schools.

Students should not stress about NAPLAN. Basic familiarisation with NAPLAN is appropriate, but beyond that NAPLAN is not a test for which students can or should ‘cram’.

All Year 3 and Year 5 students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

There are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tues 12 May</th>
<th>Wed 13 May</th>
<th>Thu 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>Language conventions—40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading—45 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy—45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing—40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>Language conventions—40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading—50 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy—50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing—40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

News from 3 Red

This term in 3 Red we are learning about space and earth’s place in space, last week we had an incursion from “Sky Lab.” Geoff from Sky Lab set up a planetarium in our school hall. Each class got to spend an hour in the space dome where we learned all about constellations and other interesting space facts.

“In the Sky Lab we learned that there are 5 dwarf planets and Pluto is one of them.”

**Bailey**

“We learned that our sun is 1 million times bigger than the Earth and that there are other suns in other galaxies that are bigger than our Sun.”

**Imogen**

“At Sky Lab we learned that every star is a sun in another galaxy and they can be bigger than our sun.”

**Joshua**

“We learned that a star called Beetlejuice is 64 millions times the size of our Sun.”

**Olivia**

“It was really cool because we got to see where different constellations are in the sky at different times of the year”

**Angelina**

STAR CORNER

Well done to Emily Beattie from 6Yellow for organising a cake stall to raise money for those affected by Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu. Thank you to those Year 6 children who generously made cakes to sell. A total of $321.60 was raised. This money will go to Caritas Project Compassion – Pacific Emergency Appeal.
Year 1 News

As part of our "Workers in the Community" unit, Year 1 had some special parent visitors come and talk to us about what they do and how they help us in the community.

Some of our speakers included nurses; an occupational therapist; a clinical psychologist; an occupational health, safety and environment specialist; and workers in banking and finance. Year 1 saw some fascinating presentations which included how to keep our brain safe, what it looks like in an operating theatre, how nurses dress and give medicine and we even got to see a motorised wheelchair in action!

Year 1 would like to thank all our parent speakers for their fantastic presentations and for taking time out to come and share with us what they do. We had a wonderful time and learned lots of interesting things.

Year 6 News

The students in Year 6 had an essay to write on 'My Gallipoli' to commemorate the Centenary of the ANZACS.

Death in Gallipoli by David McKay 6 Blue

Gallipoli was synonymous with death, so we shouldn't call it “Life in Gallipoli”. Being a soldier in Gallipoli was like having a fatal disease, as sooner or later something would kill you. Whether it was the lack of food, diseases or bullets, the thing is, bullets seldom kill in comparison to everything else. Both sides had to deal with plagues of lice, many diseases, lack of food and the harsh, deadly weather. As I already told you, it is definitely synonymous with death.

Besides diseases and lack of food, it was still a battlefield like no other. The soldiers had to call a truce to bury the many corpses. They didn't bring enough survival equipment to Gallipoli, so they had to use enemy shells to make equipment. Imagine digging a hole using an ex–bomb.

Before Gallipoli, people thought that being a soldier would mean being praised as a hero. You might think "They are heroes!", but that is 100 years after the war. Soldiers weren’t seen as heroes for a long time. Can you imagine seeing your friends die and being forced to kill men and then to not to even be noticed? As soon as you arrived in Gallipoli, you could feel death floating around. Why? Because they landed in the wrong place, a much, much more dangerous place.

In war, there is no winner, and in Gallipoli we were definitely not winners. Most of our soldiers died and we had to retreat. Our retreat was genius, though. We made a gun that was able to shoot every few seconds so it looked like we were still there. The dead soldiers had no funeral until 10 years later. They deserve more than a funeral. Each man deserves a day in his honour, but Anzac day will have to do.

Images: http://www.anzac.com/upload/1361173126_anzac_gallipoli.jpg, A call from the Dardanelles by H.M Burton
The P&F would like to thank everyone that came along to Family Disco last night.
From Easter eggs to BBQ’s to novelties to face painting and to the awesome music by DJ Berns that rocked the entire house! A HUGE THANK YOU!!!
A BIG THANK YOU to the awesome P&F parents on the night, Kate Flood, Natalie Grove, Melissa Small, Allison Gwynne and Bernard Fisher who is the amazing DJ Berns.
A lot of work goes into an event like this. We plan weeks ahead. We source everything. Run around a lot. Have loads of meetings. Lift a lot and sweat a lot! The reward is seeing it go off so well and the smiling families. A very special acknowledgement - the small army of St Michael’s parents, St Michael’s & Gilroy students were invaluable in running the event last night. We are grateful to you all very much for your time and energy last night. Thank you! Thank you! - Melanie & Marina.

The best way to keep updated is to go and “LIKE” our Facebook page!
www.facebook.com/PFStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfstmichaels@gmail.com
We thank you for your continued support!
St Michael's Knights Soccer club needs you!

Dad’s, brothers, friends of friends from St Michael’s over 35 years old are needed to play for a local Hills Football team this season in the O35’s for St Michael's Knights.

Great comradery and a way to meet some Dad’s from your kid’s school. Playing in a low division so all levels of football ability welcome! We require a minimum of 4 guys to bolster the squad. No need to train just turn up on a Saturday and play.

Contact Shane on 0411 808 608.