From the Principal

Dear Parents

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016

Enrolments are currently underway and interviews are taking place. If you have children who will be attending Kindergarten in 2016, please collect an Enrolment pack from the school office or download the Enrolment form from our website online. Please contact the school office on 9639 0518 for any further information.

P&F General Meeting Guest Speaker, Joyce Snedden

At our P&F General Meeting next Wednesday 6 May (7.00-8.00 pm), Joyce Snedden psychologist / social workers who is also the Manager of Student Wellbeing at the Catholic Education Office will be speaking on “Managing our children and bringing out the best in them.”

Joyce is a speaker who is well worth listening to. She is someone who has a tremendous amount of experience in working with children and schools with regard to managing difficult behaviours. Joyce has also run the Triple P parenting program and is a wonderful source of information about how we can manage our children and make life less stressful while bringing out the best in our children. Please come along if you can.

Parent / Teacher / Student conferences will be held next week. Please ensure that you have booked a time with your child’s teacher. Bookings close Friday 1 May.

Parent / Teacher / Student conferences open the eyes of students to their own learning and to help them take personal responsibility for their progress.

In preparing for a student-led conference, students see how their strengths, weaknesses and behaviour can affect them as learners thus allowing them to take more responsibility for and control over their achievement in school. These conferences are an experience that can improve the communication patterns of both students and parents. Students learn how to reflect on their own learning, evaluate their progress and communicate this information to their parents. Parents learn how to listen to their child, how to encourage growth and how to best help their child with specific problems.

The “student’s voice” is a very important aspect of this conference.

The following are a few hints that may be useful in preparation for the Parent / Teacher / Student conference:

- Express positive interest and anticipation about the upcoming conference.
- Be on time.
- Listen and respond to the student.
- Express pride in growth and progress.
- Ask questions.
- Be positive, offering to help in areas where improvement is needed.
- Recognise that students need to develop independence in communicating progress—the teacher will be there to facilitate and answer specific questions but student input is vital.

Diocesan Works Fund Appeal

St Michael’s, like all other schools in the Diocese, has been asked to organise a fundraising event for the Diocesan Works Fund Appeal. We will be holding a gold coin day on Friday 22 May to support this appeal. The DWF Appeal supports the good works of the Catholic Church in Western Sydney including CatholicCare Social Services programs such as Catherine Villa, which houses and provides guidance to young mothers, and Blacktown Neighbour Aid.

Reflection

May is the month of the Rosary. We invite all of our families to celebrate Mary by praying a decade of the rosary as a family each week.

“Mary, we ask you to obtain for us the strength to lead a life offered to God in thanksgiving and praise. Be present with us at all times. Guide us safely into the presence of your Son, Jesus, so that we may, with you and all the Saints, share His life, happiness and love. Amen.”

Happy Mothers Day for Sunday 10 May.
The events on the road to Emmaus are discussed in Luke 24. In this final "What happened on the road to Emmaus?" playing Word Wall Bingo.

The children developed their understanding of key words by 35) and were encouraged to make connections to their own life. As part of the lesson the children designed a character profile looking at her, place of birth, siblings, Religion, faith, strengths and achievements, how other people see her and most memorable quotes.

In 3 Green the children learnt about ‘The Road to Emmaus’ (Luke 24: 13-35) and were encouraged to make connections to their own life. As part of the lesson the children developed their understanding of key words by playing Word Wall Bingo.

"What's happened in Religious Education"

As we approach the fifth Sunday of Easter all classes across the school have been focusing on Scripture relating to the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ and our call to be more like him.

In 5 Blue and 5 Red the children have looked closely at the life of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop and how she dedicated her life, modeling Christ in both word and action. The children designed a profile looking at her, place of birth, siblings, Religion, faith, strengths and achievements, how other people see her and most memorable quotes.

In 3 Green the children learnt about ‘The Road to Emmaus’ (Luke 24: 13-35) and were encouraged to make connections to their own life. As part of the lesson the children developed their understanding of key words by playing Word Wall Bingo.

So, as they walked, Jesus taught what the Old Testament had predicted about Himself. When they arrived in Emmaus that evening, the two disciples stopped to eat, and they asked Jesus to join them. He did, and as He broke the bread and blessed the meal, “their eyes were opened” (verse 31), and they recognised Him. Jesus then vanished. Their response: Luke reports, “They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, ‘It is true! The Lord has risen!’” (verses 33-34).

Mr David Ison, REC Coordinator

---

**Social Skills and Mantras Program**

**Term 2 Week 3**

- Sign language: Thumbs up, thumbs down.
- We all have the right to feel safe all the time.
- Sign language—Thumbs up: I feel safe.
- Thumbs down: I don’t feel safe.
- This can be used in the classroom, playground and at home.

**Term 2 Week 4**

- Being Positive

People with a positive approach to life. Positive tracking: Looking for the good things is a way to succeed.

**2016 Enrolling Now**

Interviews currently being conducted for siblings and new families.

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

Please return your Enrolment Application as soon as possible so that an interview can be arranged.

Further Information

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

**PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS**

Online booking

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews for Years K-6 will be held next week Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May. Thank you to all parents who have already booked their appointments online.

**Bookings close this Friday 1 May.**

Please remember that your child MUST attend the interview with you.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au enter the event code NY2BN and follow the three simple steps:

1: Enter your details
2: Choose teacher(s)
3: Choose time(s)
Band News

The St Michael’s Performance Band will be competing in the “Battle of the Bands” at the Kenthurst Country Fair this Sunday May 3rd at 1:45 pm.

The Band members are to arrive no later than 1:15 pm to set-up. Please wear your Full Summer Uniform.

If you would like to support our School Band please come along.

Kenthurst Country Fair Sunday 3 May
St Madeleine’s School Oval
Annangrove Road, Kenthurst

Lucia Bichara, Band Director

Banking

Due to the inclement weather last week and the ANZAC Day public holiday, the banking deliveries have been delayed. As soon as the order is delivered it will be distributed. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kim, Banking Coordinator

Slow & Go

We have received a complaint regarding the bus bay at Crestwood High School being blocked by drivers from our school. The majority of parents are currently lining up and leaving the bus bay free whilst in the queue. Unfortunately, cars are driving fast past the queued cars and zipping into the bus bay space which is not allowing the buses to get in and out of the space. This is comprising the safety of all in this area—particularly the children who are on foot. This behaviour is also causing unnecessary frustration to parents and bus drivers.

Please be mindful of following the road rules to ensure the health and safety of all who are around at the end of the school day.

Stop & Drop

Please be conscious of the Stop & Drop operating in the morning and pedestrian safety by not walking in front of cars who are driving into the Stop & Drop area or who are parked. Please walk close to the fence on the yellow lines. The speed hump across the car park is marked only to show the hump and is not a pedestrian walkway.

UNIFORM SHOP

Winter Uniform commences Monday 11 May

Open every Thursday
8.30 am to 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 Thursday and sent home with your child.
**Parent’s Representative Council**

Term 2, 2015 General Meeting - Mon 25 May 2015: What is a Personalised Plan? What do I need to know?

Monday 25 May at 7.00 pm

Patrician Brothers College, 100 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown

Do you want to know more about Personalised Learning Plans and how they support students with a disability?

Shane Morris, Project Leader - System Learning, Student Services, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will highlight why personalised plans need to be in place for students with a disability. He hopes to answer questions like:

- Whether you child with a disability requires a personalised plan?
- Do you want to find out more about the collaboration process and how it informs the plan?
- What makes a personalised plan successful?

**Contact:** Parents, Representative Council, Parramatta Diocese

Email: prcparrasecretary@gmail.com

---

**FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR**

**Mrs Belinda Burgess**

**Free Seminar: Identifying and Managing Child Anxiety**

In partnership with the Rotary Club of North Ryde, the Centre for Emotional Health is pleased to invite the parents, school counsellors and teachers of your school to this free community event.

**Thursday, 28 May 2015—6.00 – 7.00 pm**

Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University

In this information session, Dr Lauren McLellan will discuss:

- Ways to identify anxiety in children, ages 7 to 12 years
- How anxiety can affect children and
- Tips to manage child anxiety


or contact Barb Corapi - barb.corapi@mq.edu.au

---

**Library**

**New books!**

Thank you to the parents who have been able to assist with the covering of the new books. These books were bought with funds raised from the 2014 Read-a-thon. Many of the titles have been covered and are being enjoyed by classes - students and teachers. If you would like to browse some of the titles, please visit the library. Book covering is ongoing, therefore if you have any spare moments, we would be very grateful!

**"More Kids Reading...Kids Reading More!"**

May is National Family Reading month. Family reading time is one of the best ways to develop children’s interest and love of books and reading. In our busy lives, just 10 minutes every day of family time reading could be the beginning of something big.

**Family Day @ the Sydney Writers’ Festival - 24 May**

Some of our children’s favourite authors are leading or involved in exciting events for families at the Sydney Writers’ Festival on **Sunday 24 May**. If this date is free, and you have the opportunity to attend - please check the programme for yourself - [http://www.swf.org.au/documents/SWF_2015_SMH_PROGRAM_GUIDE_lowres.pdf](http://www.swf.org.au/documents/SWF_2015_SMH_PROGRAM_GUIDE_lowres.pdf) and discuss with your own child/ren. [Please note - some events are free, others require bookings.]

Mrs Patricia Lee & Mrs Marianne Seny

---

**Skoolbag App—Sport updates**

We have been using our Skoolbag App, Sport category to advise of changes and cancellations to Representative Sport events due to inclement 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.

---

**KGreen News**

The children in Kindy Green are loving learning how to write. Yesterday they wrote all about having their photos taken.

Today we had our photo. I like photos. **Angus Herriott**

I had my photo taken at the hall. **Aidan Spada**

Today we had our photos taken in the hall. **Grace Zaltoney**

Today we all had our photo. It was with all of the people standing up and sitting down. **Joshua McAndrew**

I love smiling. **Ava Griffiths**

We like to smile. **James Kelly**

---

**Library**

**New books!**

Thank you to the parents who have been able to assist with the covering of the new books. These books were bought with funds raised from the 2014 Read-a-thon. Many of the titles have been covered and are being enjoyed by classes - students and teachers. If you would like to browse some of the titles, please visit the library. Book covering is ongoing, therefore if you have any spare moments, we would be very grateful!

**“More Kids Reading...Kids Reading More!”**

May is National Family Reading month. Family reading time is one of the best ways to develop children’s interest and love of books and reading. In our busy lives, just 10 minutes every day of family time reading could be the beginning of something big.

**Family Day @ the Sydney Writers’ Festival - 24 May**

Some of our children’s favourite authors are leading or involved in exciting events for families at the Sydney Writers’ Festival on **Sunday 24 May**. If this date is free, and you have the opportunity to attend - please check the programme for yourself - [http://www.swf.org.au/documents/SWF_2015_SMH_PROGRAM_GUIDE_lowres.pdf](http://www.swf.org.au/documents/SWF_2015_SMH_PROGRAM_GUIDE_lowres.pdf) and discuss with your own child/ren. [Please note - some events are free, others require bookings.]

Mrs Patricia Lee & Mrs Marianne Seny

---

**Skoolbag App—Sport updates**

We have been using our Skoolbag App, Sport category to advise of changes and cancellations to Representative Sport events due to inclement 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.

---

**FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR**

Mrs Belinda Burgess

**Free Seminar: Identifying and Managing Child Anxiety**

In partnership with the Rotary Club of North Ryde, the Centre for Emotional Health is pleased to invite the parents, school counsellors and teachers of your school to this free community event.

**Thursday, 28 May 2015—6.00 – 7.00 pm**

Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University

In this information session, Dr Lauren McLellan will discuss:

- Ways to identify anxiety in children, ages 7 to 12 years
- How anxiety can affect children and
- Tips to manage child anxiety


or contact Barb Corapi - barb.corapi@mq.edu.au
P&F General Meeting - School Hall
Wednesday 6th May 2015 - 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Agenda:

1) GUEST SPEAKER
   Joyce Snedden psychologist/social worker
   Manager Student Wellbeing at
   the Catholic Education Office Parramatta
   “Managing our children and
   bringing out the best in them”

2) Report on Family Disco
3) Events for Term 2 - Mother’s Day, Trivia Night & Pyjama Multi Day
4) Open forum with Mrs. Maka - Ask questions about any issues - all questions need to be in writing below with the parents name. Regrettably, we cannot accept anonymous questions.

Light refreshments will be available

R.S.V.P. If you are attending
Please EMAIL the P&F Secretary by Monday 4th May 2015
ccarey74@optusnet.com.au - Thank you.

Number of people • Your Name • Child’s Name • Child’s Class
Any questions for Mrs. Maka? • Comments & suggestions

---

Mother’s Day!

Gift Stall
Thursday 7th May
A huge variety of gifts $7 each that the P&F have purchased for the stall.
1 gift $7.00, 2 gifts $14.00, 3 gifts $21.00 etc.
For no child to miss out please fill in the form below & money needs to be in at the office by
Monday 4th May
NO MONEY WILL BE ACCEPTED ON
THE DAY OF THE STALL
NO LAYBYS
Each child will need to fill out a separate form!

Morning Tea
Friday 8th May
The P&F cordially invite all Mums, Grandmothers, Aunts & all important loved ones who are like a Mum to join us for Morning Tea!
School Hall approx 11am
(after Mother’s Day Mass)

Gift Purchases Each child will need to fill out a separate form!
Please return this form and payment by Monday 4th May

| Child’s Name: ________________________________ | Child’s Class: ________________________________ |
| Number of gifts purchased: Qty _________ x $7.00 each = $_________ is enclosed. |
| Cash ☐ Cheque payable to P&F St Michael’s ☐ |

Can You Help?
We need a number of helpers for the day of the stall Thursday 8th May and at the Morning Tea on Friday 8th May. If you can assist we would be appreciative.
☐ I am able to help on the day of the Mother’s Day stall. ☐ No, I am unable.
☐ I am able to help on the day of the Morning Tea. ☐ No, I am unable.

My Name: ________________________________
Email address: ________________________________ Contact Number: ________________________________
Throughout our school we have a number of children with life threatening allergies to various forms of food, latex, dust, cats and insect stings. This is a serious matter, one that our school must address.

Some children have allergies that are so severe that smells or touch could trigger a reaction.

In order to do this we appeal to all parents to assist us in caring for these children by considering the type of foods you pack for your own child’s recess and lunch.

Our aim is to minimise the amount of peanut and tree nut products brought into the school. These foods are extremely dangerous to our children with allergies and cause 50% of food allergic deaths.

Common foods that trigger an allergic reaction are listed below and we ask you to refrain from sending them to school and to seek suitable alternatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOOD TYPE</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>Any kind of peanut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree nuts</td>
<td>Hazelnuts, almonds, cashews, pecans, walnuts, macadamia – any kind of nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut butter</td>
<td>Any kind of peanut butter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesame seeds</td>
<td>Any brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutella</td>
<td>Any brand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biscuits containing or topped with nuts</td>
<td>Particularly chocolate biscuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cakes or slices containing nuts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack packs containing nuts</td>
<td>Dried fruit + nut mixes, snack-a-bouts, Dunkaroos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolates containing nuts</td>
<td>Picnics, Snickers, Mars Bars (almond), Nut Breaks, Ferrero Rocher, Fruit and Nut, Praline based chocolates – Guylian, Marble Blocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate lollies containing nuts</td>
<td>Peanut M&amp;Ms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marzipan and nougat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast cereals containing nuts</td>
<td>Crunchy Nut or Honey Nut Cornflakes, Muesli, Nutri Grain, Just Right etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muesli Bars and Snack Bars containing nuts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoghurt with nut mixer packs</td>
<td>Ski Double Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confectionary Items</td>
<td>Lolly Gobble Bliss Bombs, Rocky Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Health Food” confectionary bars containing nuts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foods containing satay</td>
<td>Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian meals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some moisturisers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Canteen does not sell any of these products.

In the case of a child bringing a nut product to school, teachers will bring the matter to the attention of parents.

There are many foods that DO NOT contain peanuts or nuts in their ingredients list, but the food package has the statement “May contain traces of dairy, nut or seed”. This food may be brought to school and consumed only by non-allergic children.

Due to safety and concerns, we discourage children from sharing food and drink. We would also appreciate parents speaking to their children regarding this matter. Your child’s diet at home need not change.

Below is a list of foods that are safe for you to choose from. We’re sure you can think of many others.

- Fruit and vegetables
- Dried fruits, Fruit snack packs
- Vegemite, jam, honey, cheese spreads
- Parker’s Pretzels, Rice crackers
- Chips, Popcorn
- Plain biscuits – sweet or savoury – without nuts
- Chocolate biscuits – without nuts
- Plain Cornflakes, Rice Bubbles, Weetbix, etc – without nuts
- Fruit based muesli bars and snack bars – without nuts
- Yoghurt – without nuts mixes
- Lollies and confectionary items – marshmallow, spearmint leaves, jelly babies, snakes, raspberries, etc without nuts.

Basically we ask you not to send food to school with your child that contains a nut or nut product in list of ingredients.

We thank you for helping us to provide a safe environment for all children at St Michael’s.
Baulkham Hills Baptist Church is running its annual ‘Blanket and Beanie Appeal’ for the homeless during the month of May 2015. Donations of new and second hand blankets, beanies, scarves, gloves etc. can be made by arrangement to Baulkham Hills Baptist Church, 39-41 Sarah Crescent Baulkham Hills. Contact Lyn at the church office on 9639 1981 or Email: baptist_church@optusnet.com.au

Alternatively donations can be delivered to a collection table at Stockland Mall shopping centre, Baulkham Hills on Friday 8th May, 9am-2pm.