From the Principal

Dear Parents

School reports

On Friday 24 June school reports will be issued for the first half of the year. Once you have looked through your child’s report, please talk to them about their learning goal for the second half of the year. Please note that the A to E grading is a legislative requirement of the Government not something St Michael’s have implemented on their own. Please focus on what your child has learnt and the next step in their learning. Every parent wants the best for their child however it is important that we recognise that children develop at different rates. Our children have to feel valued for their effort and then their achievement.

Please note that the A, B, C, D, E grading system does not imply the traditional grades that we may have experienced at school. You may like to equate the grading to gaining a driving licence.

E means that you’re on your L’s. You have an elementary understanding of the road rules and driving. You’re still learning and need to have the instructor, Teacher present in order to complete work.

D means that you have your P’s. You’re no longer a learner. You have a basic knowledge of the road rules and driving. You can drive unassisted but you’re still gaining experience. You can’t drive to the speeds that a ‘black-licenced’ driver can yet.

C means that you have obtained your ‘black-licence’. You know all the rules and can drive wherever you like. You’ve got a sound knowledge of all the road rules and how to drive successfully.

B means that you have your ‘black-licence’ and have completed a defensive driver’s course. You have skills and a high knowledge that few other drivers have.

A means that you have your ‘black-licence’ and have completed an Advanced driver course. You have excellent skills and knowledge that very few other drivers have.

It is of great importance that we give our children a proper perspective of the value of education. From the time we are born we are all learners. From our earliest years we take in information that keeps us from harming ourselves and enables us to ask for assistance. Throughout our childhood and adolescence, we acquire skills that equip us to achieve our independence as individuals. It is our job as parents to keep putting before our children an optimistic view of life, to encourage them to see things as they might be - and can be - if they keep striving for their ideals. What better ideals than to encourage our children to ongoing education, integrity, and compassion.

Thank you to all our families, teachers and students for making St Michael’s such a wonderful school.

“May you recognise in your life the presence, power and light of your soul.
May you have a respect for your individuality and difference.
May you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride and expectation with which
God sees you in every moment.” Irish blessing, Author unknown.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Maka
**Religious Education**

**WYD Pilgrim Commissioning Mass: 3 July**

Next month, 315 young people from our Diocese will depart on pilgrimage for World Youth Day in Poland with Pope Francis. Everyone is invited to the WYD Pilgrim Commissioning Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv on Sunday 3 July at 6pm in St Patrick’s Cathedral. Miss Herzog from St Michael’s will be one of the teachers taking part in World Youth Day in Poland. We wish her well as she undertakes this pilgrimage.

**Invitation to Enrol - Confirmation Program 2016 For children aged 10 or 11**

Registration evenings for Confirmation will be held on Monday 25 July and Tuesday 26 July at 7.30pm in St Michael’s Church. For children who were baptised at a Church other than St Michael’s or Our Lady of Lourdes Churches, a copy of the child’s baptismal certificate will need to be provided at the time of registration. Children who were baptised in an Eastern rite (e.g. Maronite, Melkite) may already have received Confirmation. They are welcome to be part of the program and receive a blessing at the Confirmation Masses. The parish encourages children with disability to fully participate in the parish sacramental program. Please contact the parish office on 9639 0598 to discuss your child’s needs.

**Sacramental Facilitators Needed**

Would you like to be part of this Faith Experience? The Parish-based, family-centred Sacramental Program involves weekly small faith sharing group meetings as our young people continue their Journey of Faith. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on approximately 120 children at St Michael’s on Monday 5, Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7 September this year. Due to the large number of candidates we will need many facilitators to keep our group numbers small. We invite anyone who would like to assist as a facilitator to contact the Parish Office on 9639 0598.

All those involved in ministry, who may have face to face contact with children, in the Diocese of Parramatta are now to obtain a Working With Children Check from the Office of Children’s Guardian through the website www.newcheck.kids.gov.au and attend a Service NSW Office in order to receive your WWCC number to the Parish Office for verification by the Diocese.

**Altar Server Training Course**

Girls and boys who have received the Sacrament of First Eucharist are eligible to minister as Altar Servers. St Michael’s will soon be commencing a Training Course of Altar Servers. At this stage we are asking those who are interested to contact the parish office on 9639 0518. Training dates will be advised shortly.

**Social Skills and Mantras Program**

**Week 10: Having an interesting conversation**

- Take turns and talk about something you are both interested in.

**Term 2 Week 1: Using good manners. Ask permission politely.**

- Say “Please” and “Thank you”

- “May I (go to the toilet), please? Thank you”

**Week 2: Acknowledge teachers and other staff members**

- Acknowledge a person by making eye contact; smile and nod or say “Good morning/afternoon”.

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**BABY NEWS**

Congratulations to Mrs Tierney and her family on the birth of her daughter, Sophie.

Congratulations to Mr Ison and family on the birth of his daughter, Emily.

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**2017 ENROLLING NOW**

**Interviews are currently taking place for Kindergarten 2017 siblings and new families**

For parents wishing to enrol their child in Kindergarten, or any other year level for 2017, applications are now being accepted. Enrolment packages can be collected from the school office.

If you have a Kindergarten 2017 child who has siblings at St Michael’s, and you have not already lodged your Enrolment application, please ensure that you have submitted your Enrolment form prior to the end of June or contact the school office on 9639 0518.

**Interview times for Kindergarten 2017 are being timetabled and conducted with the aim that they will be completed by the end of June.**

If you have any relatives or friends considering enrolling their child at St Michael’s in 2017, now is the time to remind them to apply.

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

**Year 6 Canberra Excursion**

**Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)**

Year 6 students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
### Choir News

The Choir will perform a song they have learnt in music lessons at the Week 10 assembly (Friday 1 July).

*Ms King, Music Teacher*

### Calendar Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Jun</td>
<td>School Assembly 8.50 am</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27 Jun</td>
<td>Years K-6 Monty Prior Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 28 Jun</td>
<td>Parish Mass: 3 Blue &amp; 3 Yellow 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29 Jun</td>
<td>Parish Mass: 6 Blue &amp; 6 Yellow 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 30 Jun</td>
<td>Year 4 “The Little Prince” Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Jul</td>
<td>Years 2-6 Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Jul</td>
<td>School Assembly and Students &amp; Citizens of the Term Awards 9.00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Jul</td>
<td>Choir performance at Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1 Jul</td>
<td>End of Term 2, 3.10 pm</td>
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### Waste Free Lunch Day Wednesday 8th June

Last week, St Michael’s took part in the Hills’ annual Waste Free Lunch Day.

Thank you to all those who took part, by bringing in lunches that were completely free from waste. Reusable containers were creatively used for sandwiches, wraps, fruit and vegetables.

We looked at the amount of rubbish that had been collected the day before from the playground, thanks to Mrs Mifsud and her team of Year 6 students. We were horrified by the sight of the amount of waste that we so frequently produce on a daily basis.

By the end of Waste Free Lunch on Wednesday, the playground rubbish was again collected. There were no bins on the playground and students were asked to take any waste home with them. We noticed a fantastic reduction in the amount of rubbish that had been left on the playground; a total of one plastic bag.

Thank you, parents and students, for your support in this day. You are showing how much you care for our environment.

Well done to: Caleb Woods, Jackson Flood, Jade Potuzanski, Anthony Khoury, Avril Chan, Keira Potuzanski, Leon Cooray and Michael Ezzy who met with the Mayor, Councillor Michelle Byrne, to discuss their waste free lunches and how they could help to keep our school a healthier environment.

*Mrs Petrenas, Coordinator*

### Uniform Shop

**Open:** Thursday 30 June, 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

Please check your children’s clothing, especially hats, to see if they have the correct item belonging to them. **Please label all items clearly**, especially hats and jackets. Children are responsible for their own belongings. Lost property is placed in a tub outside the Uniform Shop.

**Term 3 Uniform Shop Purchases**

Information on purchasing the school uniform in Term 3 will be sent home to parents next week.

### Morning routine at St Michael’s

In order for the children to develop their social skills, independence and confidence we ask that when you bring your child to the school playground that you give them a hug/kiss and leave the grounds as soon as possible.

**Morning supervision commences at 8.20 am.**

This play time in the morning gives the children opportunity to socialise, make friends and play their ball games with each other. **Please give them this experience and build their confidence by leaving the grounds once you have said your goodbyes.** Please do not join in their ball games as some children are getting upset that their parent is not there / cannot join in.

For safety reasons, please say all your goodbyes to your children on the playground and do not go up the stairs with toddlers
Sir Isaac Newton discovered what goes up must come down. **Scarlett Jackson**

The force of push can be shown when sitting on a skateboard. Using your hands to push will allow the skateboard to move. **Alex Sobb**

I learnt that when conducting Science Experiments you only change one thing at a time and that is called a variable. **Robert McKay**

You can see an example of friction when you rub your hands together and feel heat. **Hayley Carroll**

Friction is two forces rubbing against each other. **Kayla Eltakchi**

If someone scrunched up a piece of paper and dropped it the scrunched paper would land on the ground because of air pressure known as gravity. **Kitwarla Mkali**

Friction is a force when a rough surface rubs together with a smooth surface. **Brendan Huynh**

Sir Isaac Newton discovered gravity while sitting under a tree when an apple dropped onto his head. **Olivia Alford**

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**4 Red News—Force and Movement**

On 1 June, Year 4 attended a fantastic “Force and Movement” incursion run by Jason from Kaleidoscope Science.

The future scientists from 4 Red would like to share some interesting facts they learned on the day.

- If you spin a wheel the force will then pull to you and you will spin. **Jinu Jang**

- Sir Isaac Newton discovered gravity pulls objects down to the ground as there are pushing forces moving the object down. **Ashley Jay**

- Friction is a force that opposes the movement of one surface to another. **Matthew Tanios**

- A lighter weight moves easier and has a smaller force of gravity. **Emily Ward**

- If you sit on a board covered with nails it doesn’t hurt but if you sit only on the corner it will hurt. The reason is your weight is evenly distributed. **Caitlin Lynch**

- A balloon will drop to the ground because of gravity. **Javier House**

- Sir Isaac Newton made three laws about forces and they are gravity, friction and motion. **Lara Woods**

- I tried to move along the floor whilst sitting on a skateboard and was unable to do it till I used my hands with a push force. **Joshvin Prakash**
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. 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 When you change your email address.

TWO - PART SEMINAR

Understanding Family Law

PRESENTED BY:
Beth Jarman
Lawyer – Accredited Family Law Specialist

WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY - SESSION 1
Overview of the Family Law Act with focus on separation, finances and children.
- Principles of Family Law
- Role of Family Law Courts
- Filing a divorce application
- Family income
- How court determines the “best interest of children”
- Parental Responsibilities
- Mediation
- Role of Independent Children’s Lawyers
- Filing Consent Orders for Children and Property

WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY - SESSION 2
Overview of the Family Law Act with focus on property.
- What constitutes or determines property
- Application of the Act in de facto or same sex relationships
- Requirement for Provision Procedures
- Spousal Maintenance
- Timelines under the Family Law Act
- Timelines within the Family Court

DATES
Session 1 Wed. 20th July 2016
Session 2 Wed. 27th July 2016

TIME:
7:30pm – 9:30pm
VENUE:
Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown

CONTR:
$7.00 per session

FURTHER INFORMATION/BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Contact: Solo Parent Services Phone: 8822 2222 Email: soloparentservices@css.org.au

Social Anxiety in Youth: Information Evening
Thursday, 21 July 2016 from 6:00pm at Macquarie University

The Centre for Emotional Health in partnership with North Ryde Rotary is pleased to present a FREE community information evening for parents/carers, school counsellors/teachers and anyone interested in social anxiety in youth.

Around 2-3% of Australian youth (4-18 years) suffer from Social Anxiety Disorder – a fear or worry about other people’s evaluations to such an extent that it stops them from easily making friends, talking to people or being the centre of attention.

In this informative session Distinguished Professor Ron Rapee will discuss:
- Ways to identify social anxiety disorder in young people
- How social anxiety can affect children
- Tips to manage social anxiety in youth
- Available treatment options for children offered through the Centre for Emotional Health Clinic

The presentation will include a Q&A session.

About the presenter
Ronald M. Rapee is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia and founder of the Centre for Emotional Health. Prof Rapee has established an international reputation for his research into the understanding and management of anxiety and related problems in both children and adults and has published widely in some of the leading scientific journals. He has developed a number of empirically supported treatment programs that are used by researchers and therapists in countries across the world.

Event Information
Date: Thursday, 21 July 2016
Time: Doors open 5.30pm. Event 6.00pm
Venue: Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre 16 University Ave, Macquarie University NSW
Parking: Free parking from 5.30pm in X3 and W4 car parks. All people who register will be emailed a parking permit.
RSVP: Bookings are essential as places are limited.
St Michael’s Playgroup

If you are the parent / grandparent of a young child, aged 0-5 years, looking for an opportunity for your child to play and socialise with children of a similar age, why not join St Michael’s Playgroup? This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to mix and have fun in a safe environment, whilst you enjoy the company of other adults from our local community. Groups meet on Wednesday or Friday mornings between 9 and 11am, in the Sisters of Mercy Building.

Please contact Bernadette Savill 0421 413 754.

Vacation Care Program for July School Holidays

Offering craft, cooking, science experiments, outdoor games, movie & Dress up days!!!!

$70.00 per day or $45.00 per ½ day (5.5 hours max)

CCB/CCR subsidies available

Operating hours: 7am-6pm

Booking Essential on 8850 6669 or at jenny.piper@earlyeducare.org.au

79 Showground Rd, Castle Hill, NSW 2153

STEAM Holiday Program

info@steamau.com
www.steamau.com