Dear Parents

Update on our building program

It seems unbelievable but our new building will be ready for Kindergarten and Year 1 to move into next week. The removalists have been booked and extra staff will be present to ensure that it all happens with the least amount of disruption.

Kindergarten and Year 1 will move first followed by Year 2. Year 2 will occupy the old Kindergarten rooms until the end of February when we expect all work will be completed. Unfortunately at this time the classrooms will not be open for parents to have a preview of the learning spaces.

The new spaces will have to be shared with the learning support team and reading recovery. The new furniture will arrive next term and the landscaping will be finalised in the later stages of this project. Thank you for your continued support.

Keeping our children safe

Approaching children who are not your own is not permissible at any time. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. If you are not satisfied with the school’s response, please contact the Assistant Principal or Principal. The school has a responsibility to ensure that all children are safe at school and an adult approaching someone’s child would not make that child feel safe.

Talking with kids

Talking with our children comes naturally and we don’t often give it a great deal of thought. It’s something that we just do, like preparing breakfast or making lunches. However, the quality of our communication does make a difference. Good communication helps children shape positive attitudes about themselves, allows parents to have a window into their children’s thinking and promotes good relationships.

Bright Ideas

- Meals are great social occasions – more than just refuelling stops. They provide a great opportunity for families to get together and talk. Talk about each other’s day - the highlights and low lights. Share your own day with your children.
- If you have a ‘conversational clam’ in your family, try talking over a snack or while doing an activity. Boys, in particular tend to open up more while their hands are busy. Relax, go for a walk and watch how their tongues loosen up.
- If ‘nah’ or ‘yep’ are the only responses you get from your children consider asking questions that begin with What, Where, How or Why. Ask interesting questions that will spark more than a one-word response.
- Talk with children on their turf. Many children will open up in the privacy of their own bedroom, particularly when they are relaxed and feel secure.
- Respect children’s boundaries. There are times when a good listener will know when to keep quiet. Children will often divulge information when they are ready.

Talking turn-offs

- Lecturing children: “When I was young…”
- Shouting: Using a quiet voice is a more effective way to get a point across than a raised voice.
- Put-downs: They lower children’s self-confidence and they turn children off listening to you.

Today’s opportunities erase yesterday’s failures.

“Every day is a fresh new start filled with new opportunities. No matter what you said or did yesterday, last week, or last year, today you can start fresh. If you did something you’re sorry about, start today by forgiving yourself. If you said something to hurt another person, start today by apologising. If you made a mistake, do what you can to correct it. And if you don’t finish everything today, tomorrow is another fresh new start.” Gene Brown

“God of Truth, You sent Jesus to announce your salvation to all people. Empower us to bring that Good News to those who need it most. May your Holy Spirit help us overcome barriers of fear and discouragement in our lives and in the lives of those we encounter today. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.
Religious Education

St Michael’s Feast Day

On Monday, 19 September we celebrate St Michael’s Feast Day with a whole school mass at 10.15 am. All our families are cordially invited to join us in this special liturgy. St Michael is the patron saint of men and women who serve and protect our community. If you belong to one of these services; police, fire and ambulance officers; paramedics; armed forces personnel; nurses; and SES volunteers; you are invited to come to our mass dressed in your uniform.

Jubilee Year of Mercy – The Way of mercy Cross

The Way of Mercy is a diocesan-wide initiative of the Pastoral Planning Office in cooperation with the Year of Mercy Committee, centred upon the journey of a large cross of mercy. Where possible, the Cross will be accompanied by a relic of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and a letter penned by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. The Cross and Relics of Mary MacKillop and Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

As a community we need to continue to foster mercy in our daily lives and in our community.

The Cross and Relics will be in the Parish of Baulkham Hills on the weekend of 17-18 September, with a prayer afternoon planned for Sunday 18th from 2.00-4.00 pm at St Michael’s. The Cross and relics will also be at the 10.00 am and 6pm masses. On Saturday 17 September the Cross and Relics will be at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Please keep this weekend free for worship and praise. All families are invited to attend the weekend worship and praise.

Mr David Ison, Religious Education Co-ordinator

School Volunteers at St Michael’s

Thank you to parent/grandparent volunteers who have completed all their requirements to volunteer in the classroom, on excursions or sporting events. Unfortunately if you offer to assist and have not completed all the volunteer requirements, you will not be able to assist until the volunteer requirements have been completed.

All volunteers at St Michael’s need to complete Steps 1 and 2 below as follows:

- Go St Michael’s website - http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au
- Click on Parents, go to Parent Involvement, click on Child Protection Course. You will then be directed to the Catholic Education Office – Diocese of Parramatta website - http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home

Complete Steps 1 and 2

1) Step 1: Complete ‘Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers’ Form (New procedure across all CEDP schools)
2) Step 2: Complete the online training module (Updated content to be completed every two years)

Once you have successfully completed the training, an email will be sent to St Michael’s for our records.

If you have any questions regarding Volunteering at school, please contact the school office on 9639 0518.

Social Skills and Mantras Program

Week 10: Be aware of your facial expressions

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

Term 4 Week 1: Negotiating and staying calm

- Use a calm tone when dealing with a conflict.
- Make a request, pointing out how the other person will get something that they want too.

Prayers

Please keep in your prayers Kitwarla Mkali and her family on the passing of her paternal grandmother in August.

Eternal rest grant to her Lord. Let your perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

2017 Enrolling Now

Interviews are currently taking place for Kindergarten to Year 6 2017

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 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.

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The Diocese of Parramatta is required to appear before the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, Case Study 44. This public hearing is expected to begin on Monday 12 September 2016. For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website - www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/public-hearings/case-studies

For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3470. Operational from 03/09/2016 until 07/10/2016, Mon to Fri 7am-10pm, Sat and Sun 9am-5pm.

The Child Protection Information Line 1300 661 015 is available for families who would like more information about protocols or support services in Catholic schools run by the Diocese of Parramatta.

Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit www.safeguarding.org.au
Calendar Dates

**Week 9**
- Fri 16 Sep: School Assembly 9.00 am

**Week 10**
- Mon 19 Sep: Whole School St Michael’s Feast Day Eucharist Liturgy 10.15 am
- Tue 20 Sep: P&F 2nd-hand Uniform Sale, School Hall, 8.00 am; 1 Yellow & 1 Red Parish Mass 9.15 am
- Wed 21 Sep: 5 Red & 4 Blue Parish Mass 9.15 am
- Thu 22 Sep: 4 Yellow & 4 Green Parish Mass 9.15 am; Students and Citizens of the Term Awards, School Hall, 2.30 pm
- Fri 23 Sep: School Assembly 9.00 am; End of Term 3—3.10 pm

School holidays 24 September—9 October

**Week 1**
- Mon 10 Oct: School Resume Term 4—8.50 am
- Fri 14 Oct: School Assembly 9.00 am

**Week 2**
- Wed 19 Oct: NSW PSSA Athletics
- Fri 21 Oct: Kindergarten Calmsley Farm Excursion; Yrs 1-6 Catholic Missions Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am

**Week 3**
- Wed 26 Oct: Diocesan Basketball Gala Day
- Fri 28 Oct: School Assembly 9.00 am; Yr 3 Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am; Kindergarten Incursion—Bronwyn Vaughan, Story Teller 1.45 pm

**Week 4**
- Wed 2 Nov: Yr 4 Incursion—The Colonial Show
- Fri 4 Nov: School Assembly 9.00 am; Yr 1 Non-Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am

**Week 5**
- Mon 7 Nov: Kindergarten 2017 Parent Information Evening 7 pm
- Tue 8 Nov: Yr 5 Incursion—Light Show
- Fri 11 Nov: Whole school Remembrance Day Non-Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am; 2017 Parramatta Cricket Trials

Events, including representative sport are regularly added to the school’s calendar on our website: [http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/calendar-of-events](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/calendar-of-events)

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.

**Year 4**

Year 4 parents are invited to look at the children’s Part B Religious Literacy Assessment creative response in the Year 4 rooms on:

- Monday morning 19th September 8.00 - 8.30 am,
- Tuesday morning 20th September 8.00 - 8.30 am and afternoon 3.10 - 3.30 pm
- Thursday afternoon 22nd September 3.10 - 3.30 pm

**Assembly Awards**

**Week 7 Students of the Week**
- KBlue: Christine Spiliotakos
- KGreen: Hannah Maait
- KRed: Jake Lenane
- KYellow: Billy Hadden
- 1Blue: Julian Grasso
- 1Green: Lucas Daher
- 1Red: Chloe McKinney
- 1Yellow: Niamh O’Sullivan
- 2Blue: Callum Smith
- 2Green: Cassandra Perez
- 2Red: Owen Bellomo
- 2Yellow: Elle-Marie Ghetto-Tarantolo
- 3Blue: Emily Cory
- 3Green: Daniel Grib
- 3Red: Emily Betros
- 3Yellow: Sarah Hanna
- 4Blue: David Haddad
- 4Green: Emile Rizk
- 4Red: Scarlett Jackson
- 4Yellow: Morgan Thorpe
- 5Blue: Abbie Hatton
- 5Green: Victoria Garnsey
- 5Red: Tayha Herrett
- 5Yellow: Kieran Franklin-Browne
- 6Green: Braeden Thomson
- 6Red: Claudia Attard

**School banking**

Dear Parents, Could you please check your child’s banking deposit slip to ensure that it matches the amount of money being deposited. If the money in the wallet and the amount on the deposit slip doesn’t match, it will be sent home without being processed. The Banking team are not allowed to alter the deposit slip in any way. If you make a change on the deposit slip, please ensure that you initial it (same as you would on a cheque). Many thanks.

*The School Banking Team*

**Literacy Tips**

**Play word games**
Have your child sound out the word as you change it from mat to fat to sat; from sat to sag to sap; and from sap to sip.

**Create a book together**
Fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book. Ask your child to write sentences on each page and add his or her own illustrations.

Tips are taken from a website called Reading Rockets—[http://www.readingrockets.org](http://www.readingrockets.org)
NEW LOCAL OP SHOP SUPPORTING THE GOOD SAMARITAN FOUNDATION

Josephine’s Emporium has recently opened in Thornleigh and according to experienced Op Shoppers, it is an Op Shop lover’s paradise with a wonderful collection of girls and women’s clothing, accessories and jewellery.

For bargain hunters you’ll love browsing through our wide range of Bric a Brac. There is something for everyone! This new Op Shop is one of the not-for-profit works of Emmaus Productions and the Mary Brown Memorial Foundation, set up by Monica Brown and the local Brown family of Thornleigh.

Proceeds from the profits of the Op Shop will go to The Good Samaritan Foundation, a work of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan Australia (http://goodsamsfoundation.org.au/)

Josephine’s Emporium is located above the hairdresser’s salon at 8D Station Street Thornleigh and is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am - 4 pm.

For more information, phone 0432160322.

The Rio Olympics have closed, the Rio Paralympics are well underway and St Michael’s Primary School is ready to tally the success of our Olympic-a-thon held on Friday 5 August.

Inclement weather did not dampen the spirits on the day. Our opening ceremony was colourful, varied and informative. Congratulations to all teachers, students and families - the support and enthusiasm was infectious.

Mr Watts, all BBQ parent helpers and Year 6 student leaders ensured everyone who ordered a sausage sandwich were satisfied. Year 6 rounded off the day with their leadership of an activity which returned the focus to literacy, which is the recipient of our hard earned sponsorship money.

Thank you to all the families who promptly returned their sponsor cards. Returning the sponsor card is an important part of our accountability and auditing. We would be most grateful if a ‘PB’ were achieved … i.e. all sponsor cards returned by Friday, 16 September.

Once again, we are indebted to the generosity of our school community. A total of $22,643.65 was raised. This money will be strategically spent to enrich the learning and teaching of English in our classrooms. At our Week 9 Friday assembly, we will place the names of our highest fundraisers in a ‘hat’ and draw winners. We acknowledge the generosity of “Joe’s Pools & Spa Pty Ltd” [Solina family - Katherine, 3Blue], “Granny Flats Australia” [Daher family - Dominic, 3Green and Lucas, 1Green] and the Barakat family [Georgia-Maree, 3Yellow and BJ, KBlue] for donating prizes. The three highest fundraising classes will also be revealed. These lucky classes will be treated to a visit by an ex-olympian from within our St Michael’s school community.

Another highly successful St Michael’s School community event.

Mrs Trisha Lee, Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator
2nd HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE!

Tuesday 20th September from 8am School Hall

We invite families to donate back any no longer needed school uniforms, summer or winter. Please bring them to the school office on **MONDAY 19th SEPTEMBER BEFORE 12pm**.
All proceeds go back to the school towards educational resources for the children.
Please email any questions to pandfstmichaels@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 19th November 2016
7.30pm

Mum & Dad’s night out!

Trivia Night

CHRISTMAS THEME!

“Like” our P&F Facebook page for updates
https://www.facebook.com/PFStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills
We’re publishing a St Michael’s cookbook!

The P&F is delighted to announce that we are professionally publishing our very own stylish glossy cookbook.

We chose this project because it can involve all our children and their families. We want to produce a recipe book that everyone will love, so as well as sending in your recipes please feel free to include a picture. We want your favourite breakfasts, soups, desserts, cakes and main meals including any slow cooker recipes.

Please help us compile this wonderful cookbook by submitting your favourite family recipes. We hope to receive recipes from ALL families.

WE WANT YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPES!

It is SO simple to submit your recipes!

1. Go to the www.PublishedAuthors.com.au website, select St Michaels Primary School and submit your recipes using the online template. Don’t delay.

   Submissions will close Friday 14th October
   a. We encourage you to submit more than one recipe. If we receive duplicate recipes, we may combine them into one recipe with variations.
   b. Don’t have access to the internet? Just give us your recipe & we’ll try to find a volunteer to enter it for you.

2. We will soon distribute order forms so you can pre-order your copies of this very special cookbook.

Any questions, please email ccarey74@optusnet.com.au
Come along during the school holidays and ride in a safe environment with real traffic lights.

Bring your own bike and helmet

Face Painting (gold coin donation)

Parking is on site and free

Bring a picnic

Sausage sizzle and drinks

Adult Supervision required

Gates will not open until 10.00 am

The Catholic Education Office Diocese of Parramatta together with Blessed John XXIII Catholic Primary School, are pleased to offer parents and carers in our Diocese, the 1 2 3 Magic and Emotion Coaching course.

The course is 3 sessions and will be run on the following dates:
Session 1 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 26th October 2016
Session 2 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 2nd November 2016
Session 3 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 9th November 2016

Course Facilitators: Lisa Bow & Amadsha Houseman

Cost is $10 per parent/couple/carer(s) to cover the cost of the parent workbook (only one required per family). This workbook will be available for purchase on the night.

Register by calling John XXIII school office on 9852 0500

St. Bernadette's

60th Anniversary Celebration

Please join us

22nd October 2016

Novotel Sydney, Norwest
1 Columbia Court, Baulkham Hills
6:30 – 11:30pm

$75 per person
Includes food, entertainment and bar.

BOOKINGS: www.sbcphf.com
ENQUIRIES: sbcphf@gmail.com

Past students, teachers, families, friends and parishioners all welcome.
Granny Flats Australia
8/10 Anella Avenue, Castle Hill NSW 2154
p 1300 GRANNY FLATS (1300 472 689) f 02 9034 4537
maya@grannyflatsaustralia.com.au
www.grannyflatsaustralia.com.au

Summer Hockey
You’ve seen it at the Olympics, now it’s your turn to have a go.
Weekday and or weekend programmes
6 years to adult
Beginners to experienced players
To find out more contact Lyn on:
9674 2876, 0421 798 242
or visit our website:
http://www.kingslangleyhockey.org.au

Local Low Cost Family Fun

TANIA’S STRICTLY DANCING
2016 ENROLMENTS
FREE TRIAL CLASSES / NO REGISTRATION FEES
Pre School Imagine Program 2-5 Yrs | Dance Program 5 Years and Above

BALLET, TAP, JAZZ, CONTEMPORARY
HIP HOP, ACROBATICS

Locations: Norwest | Bella Vista | Crestwood | Winston Hills
Enquiries: 1300 823 239 or info@taniasdancing.com.au
www.taniasdancing.com.au

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