From the Principal

Dear Parents

School disco
Thank you to our wonderful P&F Committee for providing our children with the opportunity to have fun and socialise together. What a great way to build community.

We are blessed to have a wonderful team of generous, committed parents who are prepared to give some of their family time in support of the school. Thank you.

Building works
Up until yesterday, progress with the building works was on schedule. The foundation has been laid and if all goes to plan our children will be in their new building by August.

Parish Car Park
A few reminders regarding the Parish car park to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all who use the car park.
- Please be respectful to our volunteers and teachers who do a wonderful job ensuring that our children are safe entering and exiting your cars in the morning and afternoon.
- Please do not park at any time in the two admin spaces closest to the school entry in the car park. These spaces are in use at various times throughout the day, including 7 am in the morning.
- Please do not turn right into the car park after 8.15 am from Chapel Lane.
- Please do not park in the car park at the back of the St Michael's Church. This car park belongs to the Sisters of Mercy and is in use at all times of the day.

Neighbours
Please be considerate and respectful of our neighbours around the school, especially in the back path area of the school as we have received complaints that parents are parking across driveways.

Children arriving late at school
Children who arrive late at school from 8.50 am are required to go to the school office to sign in and collect a late pass. Parents are required to sign their child in. There is a huge impact on children coming to school late all the time, not just for the child’s own learning - it is also disruptive to the other children in the class, particularly if a teacher has to explain the work already commenced. Please ensure that your child is ready to start the school day on time so they can maximise their learning.

Holy Week
Next Sunday we celebrate Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday which is the beginning of Holy Week. During Holy Week we celebrate the three most important days in our church year: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

The palm reminds us that we are followers of Jesus.
Jesus was selfless in his dying on the cross – he gave his life for others. We are not called to die for others as Jesus did but we are called to live lives of service for others.

In Jesus’ love and mercy, he took away our sins through his death on the cross. Take some time to consider what he endured for you. Consider how you can respond in love.

Eternal God of Love, in you we live and move and have our being.  
Breathe through us again this day; give us the courage to be open and welcoming to your Spirit.  
That we may be led to do your will and follow in your ways, today and tomorrow. Amen.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Maka
Religious Education
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
This coming Sunday will see the commencement of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. We will now shift our focus to 33 AD in the land of Israel.

As Jesus enters Jerusalem, our journey through Lent in preparation for Easter is now reaching its most intense period. Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem is quickly followed by the tragedy of Good Friday. But this tragedy is short lived as death does not get the final say. Holy Week culminates in the great joy of Easter Sunday in which Jesus' resurrection destroys death and gives us hope for the transformation of our hearts and also our own resurrection on the last day. To enter more deeply in Holy Week, we need to stay close to Jesus by leading the donkey, preparing the upper room, shouldering the Cross, watching Him die, enter the tomb and rise with Him on Easter Sunday morning. Next week we will gather as a school community. We will gather to pray and reflect on the enormous sacrifice that Jesus made in offering his life for our salvation.

Holy Week Mass Times
Holy Thursday, 24 March
- 7.30 pm—Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Good Friday, 25 March
- 10.00 am—Stations of the Cross. Children from St Michael’s Primary will be participating in the Stations of the Cross.
- 3.00 pm—Celebration of the Passion of the Lord.
Holy Saturday, 26 March
- 7.00 pm—The Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday, 27 March
- 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 6.00 pm—Mass of the Resurrection

Registration for the Sacrament of Eucharist Sacramental Program
A big thank you to the Parents who registered for the involvement of their children in the Sacrament of Eucharist in the Parish based program which will commence shortly. If you were unable to make either of the two registration nights, then you will need to contact the Parish office as soon as possible on 9639 0598. We are still in need of Facilitators and home hosts and would graciously appreciate your support in this matter.

Junior elevate
Friday 8 April from 7-9 pm in the Downey Room. For further enquiries please contact Jerry on 0407 773 174.

Mr David Ison, REC Coordinator
Choir News

The Choir will perform a couple of songs they have learnt at the Week 8 Assembly (Friday 18 March).

Naplan / School Report Admin fee

Please note that there will be a $10 administration cost for the photocopying of additional Naplan or School Reports.

Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) Survey

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will be once again participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) survey.

The QCS survey provides information from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community, and assists us in our focus on continuous improvement.

Between 21 March and 1 April 2016 all staff and to all Year 5 & 6 students, and 60 randomly-selected parents will be asked to complete an online survey. Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents will be sent home a paper survey but will also be able to complete the survey online if preferred. The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.

This year we will again be able to get even more information about the link between student wellbeing and learning outcomes. To do this we will need to include a student identifier in the student survey. The survey will still remain confidential and individual survey responses will not be accessible by the school or the Catholic Education Office.

An independent survey consultant (Insight SRC) who manages the data collection will ensure the survey data is kept strictly confidential. Each school will receive a de-identified information report at the end of May to help them to develop strategies for further improvement. This will definitely help us in working with all students to improve their learning.

As a parent if you are randomly-selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Rosalie Knispel, Assistant Principal.

Star Corner

Congratulations to Joshua Patrick (U/10s boys), Dylan Brettle (U/11s boys), Kayla Morris (U/11s girls) who have qualified for the NSW Oz tag teams that will be playing at Blacktown in June.

Congratulations to Scarlett Jackson (U/11s girls) and Cooper Crawford (U/11s boys) who have qualified for the Cumberland Nepean Softball Association T-Ball teams. They have been playing in various gala days over the last few Sundays in preparation for the NSW State Championships on 9-10 April in Penrith.
Assembly Awards

Week 6 Students of the Week
KBlue: Chloe Carey
KGreen: Leon Cooray
KRed: Gianna Muscat
KYellow: Morgan Gellel
1Blue: Jason Spence
1Green: Matthew Saaib
1Red: Charlotte Henson
1Yellow: Stella Reidy
2Blue: Iol Pampaka
2Green: Abigail Chan
2Red: Mia Yates
2Yellow: William O’Farrell
3Blue: Catherine Grainger
3Green: Dominic Daher
3Red: Mitchell Essex
3Yellow: Hannah Kim
4Blue: Caiden Gellel
4Green: Declan Reidy
4Red: Kate Kennedy
4Yellow: Cornelis Rawlinson
5Blue: Abigail Hatton
5Green: Tim Coh
5Red: Nathan Grove
5Yellow: Andre Youssef
6Blue: Marianne Papadopoulos
6Green: Casey Cruden
6Red: Paige Franklin-Browne
6Yellow: Dylan Senewiratne

Week 7 Students of the Week
KBlue: BJ Barakat
KGreen: Joseph Naim
KRed: Riley Halpeny
KYellow: Jessica Bozic
1Blue: Ava Griffiths
1Green: Watson Smith
1Red: Jamie Wakim
1Yellow: Midhushan Packiarajah
2Blue: Stella Azares
2Green: Ethan Chaar
2Red: Abbey Cassar
2Yellow: Renae Emanuel
3Blue: Levi Morrison
3Green: Matthew Mackay
3Red: Brianna Tinney
3Yellow: Oscar Cheah
4Blue: Lucas Teng
4Green: Keira Mirosevic
4Red: Dylan Loots
4Yellow: Thomas Williams
5Blue: Dean Komadina
5Green: Tianna Zabaneh
5Red: Kyra Lau
5Yellow: Anastasia Dinos
6Blue: Lachlan Dengate
6Green: Scarlett Butterfield
6Red: Peter Destefano
6Yellow: Jake Hallam

Music
Reagan Smith
Emily Sayers

Participation Awards
Harrison Wilton
Thalia Mangano
Sienna Mangano
Brandon Mangano

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Tuesday 31 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 2 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 August</td>
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Sport

Congratulations to the following children who have been selected in the Parramatta Diocesan/Mackillop teams in their various sports:

**Parramatta Diocese Swimmers - Mackillop Swimming 31/3 (Homebush)**
- Jake Hallam
- Amelia Harvie
- Emily Woodroffe
- Felicity Arundell
- Anneke van Zoggel
- Elizabeth Harvie
- Angelina Zoggel
- Scarlett Jackson
- Sarah Duda
- William Hopkins

**Parramatta Football (soccer) - Mackillop Football 6/5 (Canberra)**
- Claudio Pellegrini
- Kayla Morris

**Parramatta Hockey - Mackillop Hockey 6/5 (Canberra)**
- Scarlett Butterfield
- Ruby Carlick

**Mackillop Softball - NSWPSSA Softball 30/8-1/9 (Wagga Wagga)**
- Lachlan Nada

Mark Taylor Cricket Shield

Skoolbag App

Alert category changes 2016:
- Please change your alert categories to the current Year/Grade that your child is in so that you receive the correct alerts, (eg if your child was in Year 1 last year, please change the category to Year 2 for this year). The Kindy 2015 category has been deleted.
- New “BUS” category—if your child catches the bus, please include this category for information on late running bus alerts.

Uniform shop

8.30 am—1.00 pm
Open Thursday 24 March
Closed Thursday 31 March (no orders filled)
Open: Thursday 7 April

Uniform price list form is available on our website at the following location:
http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes

Changeover into Winter Uniform
Monday 9 May 2016
News from 6 Blue

What 6 Blue think is special about St Michael’s Catholic Primary School, Baulkham Hills:

♦ I think St Michael’s is a special school because there is heaps of playgrounds for us to play on. Georgia

♦ I think that St Michael’s is a special place because we have a church in walking distance to us. Liana

♦ I think that St Michael’s is a special because we get technology to help us learn more. Alexandra

♦ I think that St Michael’s is a special school because we have great teachers that can teach us great things. Felicity

♦ I think that St Michael’s is special because it is Catholic and I get to learn about God. St Michael’s has a church right next to it so that the school can go to parish masses and liturgies. Dominique

♦ I think St Michael’s is a special school because we have great opportunities for future learning. Melissa

♦ I think St Michael’s is a special school because we have a church right next to us allowing us to go to church frequently. Lachlan

♦ St Michael’s is special because we get to learn new things and we can do fun things. Seth

♦ St Michael’s is a special school to me because I learn subjects on the iPads and computers. Thomas

♦ I think St Michael’s is special because we get to use technology to help us with our learning. Olivia

♦ I think St Michael’s is a special school because we have the privilege of using technology for our learning. Natasha

♦ You might think school is just about the old English, Religion and maths but I think St Michael’s is special because we have open classrooms with fresh air to help us work and concentrate. Patrick

♦ I think St Michael’s is a special school because we go on excursions that are related to our learning. It helps us with our learning because we listen and do activities that will help us improve. Nicola

♦ St Michael’s is a special school to me because of all the polite teachers that help us with our learning. Matthew

♦ St Michael’s is a special place because it is a Catholic school. You get to have good friends and play and have fun and you get to learn things that you haven’t learnt before. Kristian

♦ St Michael’s is a special school because we get to use technology every day and we can learn in new modern classrooms. Lauren

♦ St Michael’s is a special school because it’s a Catholic school. We have a church close by so we can go to church more often. Andrew

♦ St Michael’s is special to me because we have excursions and go to lots of places to learn new things. Kieran

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because many of my friends come here and we go on many excursions. We also get to use technology to learn and do many activities. Nikola

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because lots of my friends come here. We have a big school with two ovals to play on and we have lots of technology for each grade. Jordan

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because I have lots of friends here. We are getting new buildings, so we can have a brand new school. Amalija

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because there is a lot of technology for every grade. There are new buildings being built and there are a lot of play areas. Marianne

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because of all the new buildings we are getting and also because of all the lovely teachers we have. We are so lucky to have Ipad and Mac Books for all of Year 6. Claudio

♦ St Michael’s is a special school for me because the entire school is being remodelled and this will improve our learning. Noah

♦ I think St Michael’s is special because we are getting so many new buildings that are making our school an exciting place to learn! Jessie

♦ St Michael’s is a Catholic school. It is special to me because they offer lots of learning opportunities such as use of technology, lots of classrooms and great teachers. Caleb
HELPERS!
The P&F endeavours to put on great family events and other fundraisers during the year. We couldn’t do this without the support of the school community. We always welcome additional parent helpers. If you would like to be on our database for when the call goes out, please email us pandfstmichaels@gmail.com
Being on our database is not a commitment to help at every event. Come along when you can.

NEWS

COMMUNITY • FRIENDSHIP • EDUCATION
St Michael’s Primary School Parents and Friends Association Baulkham Hills

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfstmichaels@gmail.com
- We thank you for your continued support!

FAMILY DISCO FRIDAY 11th MARCH

With over 600 guests our Family Disco was a great night had by all! We had the Outback Steakhouse Restaurant catering the BBQ as a donation. The rib eye steak sandwiches and chicken breast fillet sandwiches were sensational and we are grateful for their support of our school.

The evening was rocked by the amazing DJ Berns who also generously donated his dj services to the school.

We had a great team of P&F Committee and parent helpers on the night without whom we couldn’t have had such a successful night - THANK YOU!!

We raised a substantial amount which will now, in part, go towards the upcoming Mother’s Day Gift Stall purchases and morning tea.

www.facebook.com/PFStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills
Please go and “LIKE” our page for updates & news!

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfstmichaels@gmail.com - We thank you for your continued support!
Outback Steakhouse Parklea
4/1190 Old Windsor Rd, Glenwood
NSW 2768

(02) 8824 5012
Sponsors of our disco and supporters of our school
Hello Families!

The P&F have again teamed up with Laura Jean Fundraising this year to have the extremely popular professional family portrait photos taken at the school on the dates shown below.

For $25, you receive a 10” x 13” framed colour portrait! The sessions are in 15 minute blocks and you can select a day and am or pm from below on a first in best dressed basis.

$25 for one 10” x 13” framed colour portrait

**Only one per family!**

Friday 1st April 4pm to 8pm - school hall or staffroom studio portrait.
Saturday 2nd April 9am to 12pm, 1pm to 6pm - outdoor school grounds
Sunday 3rd April 9am to 12pm - outdoor school grounds

Laura Jean Fundraising will organise a time with you on the day to pick up your framed portrait from the school. Additional optional photo packages will be available for your consideration at that time.

After the RSVP date, the P&F will be in touch with you by SMS to confirm your 15 minute time slot for your photographic session and when best to arrive at the school. For any queries, please contact Melanie Barton - melaniebarton@hotmail.com

We apologise, but as this is a fundraiser, we cannot refund if you cancel your booking or are not present on the day.

BOOK & PAY ONLINE : [http://www.trybooking.com/187465](http://www.trybooking.com/187465)

*30c booking fee

- OR -

Please select your preferred day AM or PM below and RSVP by **Monday 28th March** to the school office with your payment of $25 in an envelope marked “P&F Portrait Fundraiser”. **We cannot take bookings after 28/3.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st April</td>
<td>PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 2nd April</td>
<td>AM or PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 3rd April</td>
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Name: ..........................................................................................................................................................

No of people attending session: ........................................................................................................................

Mobile Phone: .....................................................................................................................................................

Included with this booking is $25 □ cash or □ cheque (cheques payable to “St. Michael’s P&F”)

*30c booking fee
2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term 1
Monday 1st February------Tears & Cheers for Kindergarten Parents ✔ Done
Saturday 13th February------Kindergarten Teddy Bear’s Picnic ✔ Done
Wednesday 2nd March 7pm------P&F General Meeting, all welcome ✔ Done
Monday 7th March------Catholic Schools Week Morning Tea ✔ Done
Friday 11th March------Family Disco ✔ Done
Friday 1st April & Saturday 2nd April------Family Portrait Fundraiser
Monday 4th April------Mother’s Day Raffle Tickets Sent Out

Term 2
Thursday 5th May------Mother’s Day Gift Stall
Mother’s Day Raffle Drawn
Friday 6th May------Mother’s Day Morning Tea
(about 11am after Liturgy)
Wednesday 18th May 7pm------P&F General Meeting, all welcome
Wednesday 1st June------Mufti Day

Term 3
Friday 22nd July------Grandparent’s Day Morning Tea
(about 11am after Mass)
Wednesday 10th August 7pm------P&F General Meeting, all welcome
Thursday 1st September------Father’s Day Gift Stall
Friday 2nd September------Father’s Day Breakfast BBQ &
Morning Tea 7.30am to 10am

Term 4
School Family Recipes Cookbook
Saturday 19th November-------- Christmas Theme Trivia Night
(For Mums and Dads Only)
Wednesday 7th December 7pm------P&F General and Annual Meeting
all welcome
Super Heroes, big and small, should head to *The Art of the Brick: DC Comics*. It's your final chance to see over 120 Super Heroes and Super-Villains created entirely from over a million LEGO® bricks before the exhibition *closes on 1 May*. Bookings are recommended so you can attend at your preferred day and time. This exhibition is exclusive to the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney. Tickets from $13.60 and include general entry to Powerhouse Museum.

Spend the night in the Museum - Calling all budding Super Heroes: get ready to *sleep over for the night inside the Powerhouse*! Enjoy an exclusive visit to *The Art of the Brick: DC Comics* after hours, then test out your night-vision powers with a torchlight tour of the Museum. Collaborate with actors to create an interactive Super Hero story. Watch a movie before sleeping under our planes and satellites. Dinner and breakfast are included. Ages 5–10. Powerhouse Museum, 15–16 April 2016, 5.30pm – 8am. Adult $160, Child $140, Additional child $70. Discounts for MAAS Members.

*Digital media workshops* - Learn how to *create original YouTube* content, record the*next big music hit* or use programmable electronics to measure the acceleration of a *bottle rocket*. Join popular*Minecraft* workshops or create your own multiplayer game using *Unity 5* that you can then play on your device at home. Plus book for Family days to discover shared skills in *Physical computing* and*Scratch*. Ages 7+. Powerhouse Museum and Sydney Observatory, 9–25 April. One and two day workshops from $100, discounts for MAAS Members.

*Explore Space at the Observatory* - Day and night, Sydney Observatory has a full holiday program for little astronauts! Book for the *Kids Extravaganza* on 20 April to build (and launch) a rocket, meet our Mars Rovers and peer through telescopes to get a close view of the Sun. Plus there are workshops to uncover the *history of the Observatory*, daily shows in the *Planetarium and 3D Theatre* as well as *family stargazing tours* in the evenings. Ages 3+. Sydney Observatory, 9–25 April.
Child Protection Training for School Volunteers

In order to become a school volunteer at St Michael’s Primary school the following must be completed:

- Child protection training on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website (instructions below).
- Read, complete, sign and return the school’s Confidentiality agreement available from the office or located on the school’s website under the Parent\School notes link.

**Instructions for Child Protection training**

- Go St Michael’s website -
  [http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au](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 to complete the training [http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home](http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home)
- Once you have successfully completed the training, an email will be sent to St Michael’s for our records.
- Please forward to us your completed Confidentiality agreement.

Canteen—Reminder

- New ROSTER has been distributed. If you have volunteered and have not received your copy or have any enquiries please contact CANTOON.
- New MENU has been sent and is also available on school website.
- WRAPS are also available. (Please Add to MENU) - Salad wrap - $4.50; Chicken salad wrap - $5.00
- Please note. Money must accompany order NO CREDIT FOR ORDERS
- Should it happen that your child is without lunch, the Canteen will provide a suitable lunch. We would appreciate payment the next day. Thank you.
The Hills Hawks is Looking for U/9s and U/10s!

The Hills Hawks Junior Rugby League club is looking for U9s and U10s to join our friendly little club. If you are interested why not come and try at one of our training sessions held every Thursday from 5.30pm at Quarry Rd, Dural Park, Dural.

Ages 4 to 8 play Mini Footy, ages 8 to 12 play Mod League and ages 12+ play rugby league.

For further information contact hawksrugbyleague@gmail.com or 0421 118 441 or check out our facebook at www.facebook.com/hawksrugbyleague