From the Principal
Dear Parents

Thank you to all our families who were able to attend the parent information sessions last week. What a great way to begin the partnership with your child’s teacher. Knowing what your child is learning ensures that we have the same expectations and goals for our children. Please make sure you keep the lines of communication open with your child’s teacher. No problem or concern is too small or irrelevant for us to work on and solve together. The school has the same goal for your child/children. We want them to have a happy and successful year of learning.

Welcoming Mass—Friday 17 February 10.15 am
We invite all our parents to attend our first whole school Welcoming Mass and induction of school leaders which will take place tomorrow.

Carpark
Please be vigilant if you are using the carpark as we all know how unpredictable small children are in terms of where they are walking and how at times they may not be observant of cars, especially when they are reversing.

The morning use of the carpark seems to be the most dangerous time for children to be allowed to walk through without an adult in attendance. Please walk your child into the school rather than allow them to walk through the carpark on their own. Please hold your child’s hand in this area.

If your child walks to school from St Michael’s Place, they need to walk on the footpath in Chapel Lane, cross the driveway safely and then walk down the yellow lined path into the school gates in the carpark or continue down the footpath to the main gate in Chapel Lane.

If you don’t have the time to walk your child into school, please use the Stop and Drop system in the morning. Children are assisted by parent volunteers from your car from 8.15 am and walk directly into the school groups.

Building update
At our recent site meeting we received an update for the completion of the last stage of our building program. The builders have lost quite a number of days due to wet weather or heat waves. The completion date is now 1st June. The school has no complaints regarding the change of date because we have our existing classrooms that are adequate to accommodate Year 2. We know that the end of this program we will have a magnificent school, with state of the art facilities.

Reflection
When St Paul wrote to the people of Galatia, a Roman province in Asia Minor and which we now know as Turkey, he encouraged them not to give in to the negative side of their nature in their dealing with one another. Instead, he suggested they allow God’s Spirit to rule their actions:

“The Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. The spirit has given us life; he must also control our lives. We must not be proud or irritate one another or be jealous of one another.”

About a hundred years ago when Henry Ford was attempting to establish his Ford Motor enterprise, he was struggling to sell enough of his cars to maintain the company. In spite of financial difficulties, he decided to pay his employees more instead of less. His factory labourers were now making enough money to buy the cars they made; this boosted sales and the company’s profits increased considerably. The wages sacrifice made by Henry Ford, benefited the factory workers and ultimately helped the company.

So it is with our school. The contributions made by parents collectively in support of their children, will benefit the whole school and ultimately each individual.

May the “full range” of Christian Values be visible in all facets of our school life throughout the year, as we each contribute to the development of a healthy Christian community.

“Lord, may all members of our school community come together with open minds and generous hearts. May the manner in which our school expresses itself to the wider community, bear witness to the active presence of your Spirit amongst us. Amen”

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

St Michael’s Primary School
3–5 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills
Email: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au
Tel: 9639 0518  Fax: 9639 6734
Issue 2  Term 1 Week 4  Thursday 16 February 2017
Calendar Dates—2017

Term 1—Friday, 27 January to Friday, 7 April
- Monday 24 April—Staff Development Day—Pupil free
- Tuesday 25 April Anzac Day Public Holiday
- Wednesday 26 April—Students Resume for Term 2

Term 2—Monday, 24 April to Friday, 30 June
- Monday 24 April—Staff Development Day—Pupil free
- Tuesday 25 April Anzac Day Public Holiday

Term 3—Monday, 17 July to Friday, 22 September
- Monday 18-Tuesday 19 December—Pupil free—Staff Development Days

Term 4—Monday, 9 October to Tuesday, 19 December
- Monday 18-Tuesday 19 December—Pupil free—Staff Development Days

Enrolment at St Michael’s Primary

Enrolment at St Michael’s Primary Catholic 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).

When you return your Enrolment form, you will be invited for an interview with your child. The school office will contact you to organise a time for this interview.

Further information: Please contact the school office on 9639 0518.

School Volunteers at St Michael’s

All volunteers who would like to assist at the school in the classroom, on excursions or sporting events 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](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](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.

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.

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

Social Skills and Mantras Program

Week 5: P from Respect
- Play safe, be safe

Week 6: E from Respect
- Earn St Michael’s a good name.

Week 7: C from Respect
- Cooperate with all members of the St Michael’s community.

Prayers

We pray for those in our community who may be unwell or suffering at the moment.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Newsletter distribution

The link to the Newsletter is emailed to parents each fortnight. Please ensure we have your most up-to-date email address.
## Calendar Dates

### WEEK 4
- **Fri 17 Feb** Whole School Welcoming Mass 10.15 am

### WEEK 5
- **Mon 20 Feb** Hills Zone Swimming—Hawkesbury Pool
- **Tue 21 Feb** Parish Mass: 3 Yellow and 3 Blue 9.15 am  
  Yr 3 Planetarium Incursion
- **Wed 22 Feb** Parish Mass: 2 Yellow & 2 Red 9.15 am
- **Thu 23 Feb** Parish Mass: 2 Blue & 2 Green 9.15 am
- **Fri 24 Feb** Diocesan Swimming—Blacktown Pool  
  School Assembly—Prayer 4 Blue 9.00 am

### WEEK 6
- **Tue 28 Feb** Parish Mass: 3 Red & 3 Green 9.15 am
- **Wed 1 Mar** Whole School Ash Wednesday Eucharistic Liturgy  
  12 pm
- **Thu 2 Mar** Parramatta Soccer Trials—St Marys  
  Parish Mass: 1 Red & 1 Yellow 9.15 am
- **Fri 3 Mar** Mackillop Basketball and Tennis  
  School Assembly—Prayer 3 Blue 9.00 am

### WEEK 7—Catholic Schools Week
- **Mon 6 Mar** Parramatta Hockey Trials—Penrith  
  “Quick Tips for Parents” (more details to follow)  
  Whole School Non Eucharistic Liturgy 10.00 am
- **Tue 7 Mar** Parramatta Cricket Trials—Drummoyne  
  Paul Kelly cup  
  “Quick Tips for Parents”  
  Parish Mass: 1 Blue & 1 Green 9.15 am
- **Wed 8 Mar** “Quick Tips for Parents”  
  Parish Mass: 5 Red & 5 Green 9.15 am
- **Thu 9 Mar** “Quick Tips for Parents”  
  Parish Mass: 5 Blue & 5 Yellow 9.15 am  
  Yr 4 Materials and Sustainability Incursion
- **Fri 10 Mar** School Assembly—Prayer 2 Blue 9.00 am

### WEEK 8
- **Tue 14 Mar** Parramatta Netball Trials—Windsor  
  Parish Mass: 6 Red and 6 Green
- **Wed 15 Mar** Parramatta Rugby League Opens & 11 yrs—Blacktown  
  Parish Mass: 4 Green & 4 Yellow 9.15 am  
  Kindy 2018 Enrolment Open Morning 9.30-10.45 am
- **Thu 16 Mar** Parish Mass: 6 Yellow & 6 Blue 9.15 am
- **Fri 17 Mar** School Assembly—Prayer 1 Blue 9.00 am

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

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### Assembly Awards

#### Week 3 Students of the Week
- **KR RED** Jamie Nicholas
- **KQ BLUE** Halle Flemming
- **KTR YELLOW** Emma O'Brien
- **1HS BLUE** Emilia Muccino
- **1S GREEN** Domenic Pizzonia
- **1G RED** Lila Haddin
- **2P RED** Ava Griffiths
- **2L YELLOW** Lily May Sharma
- **2R BLUE** Mia Simic
- **2J GREEN** Ashton Crawford
- **3C RED** Emily Kos
- **3H GREEN** Nicholas Carey
- **3B BLUE** Jackson Carlos
- **3RC YELLOW** Christiane Barakat
- **4L YELLOW** Julia Patanjali
- **4G GREEN** Isabella Achurch
- **4P RED** Calum Bowles
- **4BM BLUE** Kye Burley
- **5M RED** Reagan Smith
- **5J GREEN** Lara Woods
- **5K BLUE** James Murray
- **5OD YELLOW** Kaitlin Giffney
- **6F BLUE** Lachlan Clement
- **6M YELLOW** Ryan Glanville
- **6B GREEN** Oscar van Zoggel
- **6R RED** Mitchell Thomson

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### Canteen

Can we just say a really big thank you to all the St Michael's Community for making us feel so welcome.

Our online ordering system is free of the little gremlins now. This is a great way to order your child’s lunch especially if they are in Kindy. Remember when ordering to include your child’s class and which juice they prefer—Apple or Orange. Lunch orders can still be brought to school and put into the class pouches.

If you would like your child to order their recess, please mark RECESS clearly on the bag. Recess orders may be collected at the Canteen side door.

On the last Monday of each term we will be having a Red Day. This will mean a couple of items not normally on the menu will be available.

When dropping off your child if you feel like a coffee, we sell Grinders Cappuccino, Latte or Flat White. Just pop your head into the side door to place your order if it is before 8.20 am.

If anyone has any suggestions, please feel free to pop in and let us know or give us a call at school.

_Nina and Elsa, Munch Canteens_

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**Calendar dates**: 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.
Reading

Reading in our modern world is more important than ever. When your children see you reading and writing in everyday life – reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them, using a recipe, making a shopping list, writing a birthday card, reading street signs, or reading and writing emails – it teaches them that reading and writing are useful skills.

Reading with your child at home will help them in all learning areas at school. Often teachers will ask you to listen to your child read at home. This is a good way to support your child’s reading. You can borrow books from your school library or your local library.

What parents can do at home to help their kids with reading:

- Be confident that your child will learn to read. Give positive messages and involve them in everyday conversations and opportunities to read.
- Read aloud to your child. It helps them to learn about the language of books and will encourage them to enjoy books and reading.
- Read to your child in your home language, if your first language is not English.
- Make reading enjoyable and talk about books, magazines and computer stories that you have read together.
- Try not to let television intrude on reading time. Make a special time for reading with your child, away from interruptions.
- Listen to your child read as often as you can, every day if possible, even if only for a short time.
- Give books in print or electronic form as treats and presents.

Hints for listening to your child read:

- When reading together at home try to make the time relaxed, enjoyable and positive. Vary it. Read together, read to your child and take turns or have them read to you.
- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title and the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.
- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point and predict what might happen next.
- After you’ve finished reading with your child, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.

Useful reading tips:

When your child is reading and encounters words that are difficult for them, use the Three P’s “Pause, Prompt, Praise” to support them.

Pause: when your child comes to a word they don’t know, try not to jump in straight away. Wait and give your child time to work out the word.

Prompt: If your child successfully works out the problem word, suggest they go back to the beginning of the sentence and re-read it (to re-cap meaning) before reading on.

If your child has not worked out the problem word, prompt them with some quick, low-key suggestions. Say things like:
- “Try reading on for a sentence or two, miss out the difficult word and see if that helps you to work it out.”
- “Look at the sound the word begins with, use that clue, and think about what may make sense here. Look at the pictures.”

If prompts like these are not working, simply tell your child the correct word. Try not to spend too much time prompting, as your child will find it difficult to maintain the overall meaning of what they are reading.

Praise: praise your child’s reading efforts and successes.

Things to remember about reading:

- The goal of reading is always to make sense of what is read.
- Try to be interested, supportive and enjoy the time together.
- Read with your child anywhere and at any time; don’t forget that many everyday experiences provide opportunities to put reading and writing into action.
- Visit and use a library near you. Borrow books for yourself as well as for your child.
- Talk to your child’s classroom teacher or the principal for further help and advice.

Reminder

All soccer balls, netballs, basketballs etc MUST be carried to and from school in a bag (either school bag or other bag) for safety reasons and should be labelled with the child’s name. Balls should not be played with before and after school. Please do not allow your child to bring valuable items to school. Please ensure all items brought to school are clearly labelled. Your child is responsible for any item brought to school.
ABSENCES ADD UP!

FEBRUARY
2 DAYS
A MONTH

NOVEMBER
4 WEEKS
A YEAR

MISSING MORE THAN
1 YEAR OF LEARNING IN 12 YEARS

DID YOU KNOW

1 IN 6 PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

BE FIRM. Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
Develop good sleep and morning routines
Schedule appointments after school
Avoid taking holidays during term time

EACH DAY MISSED:
- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY

Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.
GILROY CATHOLIC COLLEGE
17–37 Marie Street CASTLE HILL NSW 2154
Welcome families to our Annual
“Open Evening for Year 7 2018” on Wednesday 8 March 2017
College Tours will be conducted from 5.00pm-6.00pm and re-commence at 7.00pm-7.30pm.

Opening address by the Principal commences at 6.15pm in the Brother Damien Harvey Hall.

Enrolment Packages will be available on the night for children currently in Year 6 2017. Expression of interest forms will be available for other families with younger children (e.g. Year 5).

Gilroy Catholic College focuses on quality education within the nurturing environment of a faith community.

Gilroy is a Technology rich learning environment.

We aim to develop competent and confident young people who can think critically and make decisions informed by Catholic values.

Pastoral care is central to the organisation and operation of the College and endeavours to ensure that all students are able to recognise the dignity of their relationship with others.

Applications close: 10 May 2017.
You will be contacted mid Term 2 if you are successful to attend an interview.
For further information visit our website or Phone: 8853 8200 or Email: gilroy@parra.catholic.edu.au

CatholicCare Social Services
SOLO PARENT SERVICES

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM—BLACKTOWN

For men and women who grieve the death of their spouse or partner.
Introduction and Overview 01st Feb 2017
7 Wednesdays fortnightly: 15th Feb – 10th May 2017

This Program is aimed at those who are widowed, to further understand and come to terms with the many ways in which grief impacts on their lives. An opportunity to ask questions, explore and learn more about the ways in which grief unfolds and how best to deal with the unsuspecting challenges and difficulties of the uncharted waters of this long and painful journey.

WHEN WE ARE LISTENED TO WITH EMPATHY, WE ARE CONSOLED IN OUR GRIEF, OUR LONELINESS IS ALEVATIZED AND CONNECTIONS ARE CREATED AMONGST US.

Eight Workshops

| Introduction and Overview of Program | Physical Effects of Grief |
| Images and Frameworks for the Grieving Process | Dealing with Intense Emotions |
| Social Effects of Grief | Seasons and Tasks of Grief |
| Is it Grief or Depression? | Continuing Bonds with the Deceased and Closing Ritual |

VENUE: 38 Prince St (off First Ave) Blacktown
DAY/TIME: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm
Introduction and Overview 01st Feb 2017 Seven Wednesdays Fortnightly 15th Feb - 19th May
FEE: $5.00 per Session

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Contact Rita
Ph: 6322 2222
soloparentservices@oss.org.au
St Michael’s Skoolbag App

Our communication tool—Skoolbag—enables us to get alerts out to parents quickly. We use this tool as an addition to our existing methods of communication.

Skoolbag provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know, providing instant push notification messages, such as news, events, newsletter posts, last minute cancellations. It provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications and is a free service to families.

Go to 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.

The Newsletter continues to be published fortnightly. Parents will receive a weekly email with the link to the school calendar. All other communication via letter/email will continue in 2017.

Alert category changes 2017:

- 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).
- ‘BUS’ category—if your child catches the bus, please include this category for information on late running bus alerts.
HOCKEY

GIVE IT A GO THIS WINTER

Local games for U7s and U9s
Mixed competition for U11s to U17s
Men’s competition
Local fun, skills and fitness sessions for Women

TEMPTED?

Take part in a free come and try session;
Tuesday February 21 and again on the 28th 5.30pm to 7.30pm
Cavanagh Reserve Tennis Courts Northcott Road, Laker Park

AFTER MORE INFORMATION?
Contact Lyn
9674 2876, 0421 798 242
Visit the website:
http://www.kingslangleyhockey.org.au

ST PATRICK’S MARIST COLLEGE
DUNDAS

Open Day
Monday, 6 March, 2017 | 4.00pm to 6.00pm

PRESENT YOGA
"Yoga is Our Gift for All member of your family"

Yoga for Children

Tuesdays 3:30-4:20pm , Ages 5-8
Tuesdays 4:30-5:20pm , Ages 9-17
8 passes $13. valid 8 weeks , Casual $18

With Fun and Encouraging Atmosphere:
Develop Motor-skills
Body Flexibility, Concentration
Memory Function
Improve Children General Health by
Yoga, Meditation And Breathing Techniques

Yoga For Adult

Yoga class - General Yoga, Meditation and Breathing Techniques
Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 am , Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm
8 passes $21 valid 8 weeks , Casual $26

General Yoga, Meditation and Breathing Techniques
Wednesdays 9:30-11.30am , Thursdays 7:30-9:30 pm
8 passes $18.50 valid 8 weeks , Casual $22

NO GAP In Your Health Insurance

Location: Room 1, Crestwood Community Centre, Crestwood Drive, Box Hill North
Contact: 9442 987 023
Play Rugby with the Brumbies

Does your child want to play rugby league in a safe and happy environment? The Baulkham Hills Brumbies Junior Rugby League Club includes students from St Michaels, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Bernadette’s and St Angela’s from Under 6’s to Under 11’s. The Brumbies play in the Parramatta Convents Association and games are played on Sunday’s. Registration fees for the 2017 season are $130 for one child and $190 for a family. This is great value for money and includes shorts, socks and a drink bottle. Registration fees for our Under 6’s were reduced last year and we have decided to reduce them again in 2017! So Registration Fees for ALL UNDER 6 players will $30. Registrations for new players for the 2017 rugby league season will take place on Sunday 26th February 2017 at Castlewood Oval, Castle Hill, between 10am and 12pm. All new players will be given information to register online from this date. You will need to please supply original copies of your child’s birth and baptism certificates. For returning players, you should have already completed your registration online by February 19th.

Any queries, please contact; John Polley (President) – 0414 275 824 or Simone Urquhart 0412 996 996

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PILOATES CLASSES

MENEZES METHOD™

Develop inner strength, a more shapely body, better posture, flexibility, balance and control.

1 pm & 7.15 pm Monday at Castlewood
8 pm Wednesday at Castle Hill
Term 1 begins 13 February 2017 - 8 week term
Strengthen your core muscles to reduce back pain and stress. Improve your posture and stamina. 1 hour classes suitable for beginners to advanced levels.

* Summer Special: $132 if booked and paid in full by 12/01/2017
* Get 1 free lesson if you join for the term with a friend.
* Fees paid after 12/01: $144 ($132 for High School Students)
* Bookings essential, class numbers limited
* Conditions apply

To book or get more information, including testimonials, call Sharon Brown, 0414 465 542 or email: shandy@optusnet.com.au or Sharon Brown Pilates

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Manor

REAL ESTATE

THANK YOU
For voting us the Most Recommended Agents in Baulkham Hills.

9639 5833 | SHOP 34 – STOCKLAND BAULKHAM HILLS, 375 – 383 WINDSOR RD, BAULKHAM HILLS

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Martial Arts for Kids From 3 yrs

Start a new life with a positive attitude
✓ Discipline ✓ Confidence ✓ Concentration
✓ Self Defence ✓ Bully safety accredited

TAEKWONDO WORLD 5 Gladstone Rd, Castle Hill 8850 7771 tkdworld.com.au

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Liu’s Taekwondo Academy

 Improve your health, physical fitness, discipline, self-confidence & learn the Olympic sport.

Graduate with confidence, reputation.

Liu’s Taekwondo Academy is the world’s leading world Taekwondo Academy.

Grand Master Yoo

Phone: 02 9686 2266 Mobile: 0411 652 358
Email: liutkd@hotmail.com

For more information come visit us at http://en.ahktd.org

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This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: www.stmichaelsbhill.catholic.edu.au