

# St Michael's Primary School

3-5 Chapel Lane, Tel: 9639 0518 Fax: 9639 6734 **Baulkham Hills** Email: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Term 4 Week 9 Issue 20 **Thursday 7 December 2017** 

### From the Principal

**Dear Parents** 

#### Thank you

This is the final newsletter for the year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the whole community for their involvement and support for the school. This has once again been a very successful year for the children and community of St Michael's. The school has participated in many Religious, learning, sporting and musical opportunities. I believe we are continuing to move from strength to strength in terms of the experiences and the learning opportunities we offer our children. The children always rise to the challenge and make us very proud.

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who will celebrate their graduation next Wednesday night. My best wishes to all of you as you go to high school and continue your journey as lifelong learners.

Thank you to our school leaders for their enthusiasm and the mature manner in which they represented the school and the excellent way they have each carried out their particular role. It has been a pleasure to have their support and I wish them every success in the future.

**School Captains:** Lily Donald, Timothy Grehan Vice Captains:

Charlotte Stewart, Alexander Sneyd

#### **Colour House Captains:**

Gold: Emily Knez, Dylan Brettle Green: Paige Cassar, Angus Lewis Blue: Ashley Gremmo, Jacob Jones **Red:** Kayla Morris, Dominic Arundell

#### **Community leaders:**

Tyrin Barnett, Lachlan Clement, Mia Cox, Charlotte Finnerty, Hannah McGoldrick, Zayra Plebani, Nathan Saliba, Sean Yeo, Dulansa Rajawasam Kurukulage,

A special farewell and thank you to the staff who are leaving our school:

- Mrs Colleen Smith was on leave in 2017 and has decided to resign from her permanent position and support our school as a casual teacher.
- Mrs Lucy Messina who is moving on to take up a new leadership/teaching role in the diocese.
- Mrs Lesley Cady, Literacy support teacher is retiring after 30 years at St Michael's. Mrs Cady has worked very closely with the students needing extra support in literacy.
- Mrs Rooney will continue to be part of St Michael's in the capacity of a casual teacher.
- Miss Jeffery and Mr Ryan will continue their careers in the Parramatta Diocese.

We thank them all for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the students at St Michael's. We wish them the best in their future endeavours.

Farewell and thank you to the families leaving St Michael's. Thank you for your contribution to our school. Our best wishes go to you and your children.

Thank you to the 2017 P&F Committee for the \$25,000 donation to the school which will go towards purchasing resources. Thank you for your continued support of the school and all your hard work. We look forward to working with the 2018 P&F Committee next year.

Thank you to all our parent volunteers who have contributed in so many ways to the life of our community. These include parent helpers in the classroom, at sporting events, Banking, Book Club, P&F and Stop & Drop volunteers. We are always grateful for your assistance and support.

#### St Michael's Christmas Story—Friday 15 December at 12 noon in the Church

Once again our school will be celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. This is a special celebration for the children to have an understanding of what Christmas means in our Catholic tradition. This is not a concert. All classes are participating in the singing of Religious Christmas carols and a small group of children have an individual role to play in the Christmas story.

Parents are welcome to attend, however, please note that the parish is also having a Christmas celebration for the seniors. This will undoubtedly have an impact on the availability of parking.



#### MAI—Maths Assessment Interviews

These will be offered again in 2018. The online bookings will be available for Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 January. This is an important interview led by your child's teacher to gather data on your child's mathematical understanding in counting, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This interview will give us the data that will ensure our students can be successful learners given time and the opportunities to engage in high quality Mathematics programs. A separate note will be sent out next week.

#### Reflection

"Christmas is almost here!" So what do we think of when we hear such news? Probably, the thoughts that come to mind, are those associated with the necessary preparations that go to make the day an enjoyable occasion marked by lots of food, presents, lights and tinsel. Besides this type of joy there is another:

"Let's arise with joy in our hearts and share it with everyone.

The meaning of Christmas will always be the birth of Jesus, God's Son." Author uncertain

Christmas is an anniversary celebration of when God gave us the gift of Himself without splendour or opulence but in poverty and weakness, in the form of a tiny baby in an animal enclosure. Jesus, Son of God, emptied himself of power, privilege and possessions and was born into the human race in the humblest of manner.

In the early years of the Church, Christianity grew and spread very quickly. This was because Christians were known for their unusual compassion for those around them—so different to the treatment metered out by the Romans. The first Christians knew that God, taking flesh in Jesus for the sake of the whole world, wasn't an event of the past; it was the pattern for their own lives every day. People in any age of anxiety and oppression were attracted to a religion whose adherents dared not to follow the culture of the day but to transform it.

The goodness of a Christian, one who models life on Christ, is not a matter of achieving a high moral standard or of scoring high marks in a test of "rules-observance". It is letting the wonder of God's love come through our lives and allowing it to be available to other people. Love is given so that love can be born in another and given in return.

"As a baby, Jesus came
From his home above,
He left his throne and where he was
To teach us how to love.

As a baby, Jesus came
The hope of eternal life,
Recalling us back to God
Giving meaning to our lives."



### Have a happy and joyous Christmas! Peace and best wishes.

## Danuta Maka

#### Religious Education

### St Vincent De Paul Society—Christmas 2017 Hamper Appeal

Thank you for your generous support in donating non-perishable food items to help those in need throughout our parish and surrounding areas. The donations will be given to the St Vincent De Paul Society on **Friday 8 December**.

#### **Sacramental Programme 2018**

Each child has now received a copy of the programme details from the Parish.

**Penance/Reconciliation**—Term 1 Registration evenings Monday 12 February or Tuesday 13 February in the Church at 7.30 pm

**Confirmation**—Term 2: Registration evenings Monday 14 May or Tuesday 15 May in the Church at 7.30 pm

**Eucharist**—Term 3: Registration evenings Monday 13 August or Tuesday 14 August at 7.30 pm in the Church

Each child has received a paper copy of the programme details from the Parish.

All enquiries regarding the Sacramental Programme, please contact the Parish Office on 9639 0598.

#### **Christmas Mass Schedule St Michael's Church**

#### Sunday 24 December

- 5.30 pm Family Mass—Children are welcome to dress as characters from the nativity story
- 8.00 pm Youth Mass
- 11.30 pm Carols followed by 12 Midnight Mass

#### Monday 25 December

- 8.00 am- Mass
- 10.00 am- Mass
- NO Evening Mass

#### **Tuesday 26 December**

• 9.15 am Mass

#### St Michael's Second Rite of Reconciliation

Monday 18 December 2016 at 7.30 pm

#### **Individual Reconciliation Times**

- Saturday 16 December 2016: 4:30-5:15 pm
- Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 and Friday 22 after 9.15 am Mass
- Saturday 23 December 2016: 9.30-11.00 am

I wish every family a Happy, Holy and Safe Christmas.

Mr David Ison, Religious Education Co-ordinator

Calendar Dates				
WEEK 9—Years 1-3 Swimming Program				
Fri 8 Dec Years 1-3 Swimming Program School Assembly 8.50 am—Prayer 2 Green, and 1 Yellow song performance				
WEEK 10				
Mon 11 Dec	Dance Troupe Years 4-6 School Hall 9.15-9.45 am Whole School End of Year Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am Dance Troupe Kindy-Year 3: 11.30 am—12.00 pm Term 4 Student & Citizen of the Term Awards 2.30 pm			
Tue 12 Dec	K Red & K Green Parish Mass 9.15 am Swimming Carnival Years 2-6			
Wed 13 Dec	1 Red & 1 Yellow Parish Mass 9.15 am Year 6 Graduation Awards Ceremony: Hall 6.15 pm Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass: Church 7.30 pm			
Thu 14 Dec	Year 6 Aquatic Centre Excursion  P&F 2nd Hand Uniform Sale 2.30 pm- (Postponed to Term 1)			
Fri 15 Dec	School Assembly 8.50 am—Prayer 1 Green, 3 Blue and 3 Yellow performance 2018 Promotions morning 10.00-11.00 am St Michael's Christmas Story 12 noon Church Term 4 finishes for students 3.10 pm			

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.

#### Calendar Dates—2018

Term 1—Monday, 29 January to Friday, 13 April 2018

- Staff Development Days MAI Testing: Monday, 29 January and Tuesday, 30 January
- Wednesday, 31 January: Years 1-6 Commence
- Thursday, 1 February: Kindergarten Commence

Easter break: Good Friday, 30 March to Easter Monday, 2 April 2018

Term 2—Monday, 30 April to Friday, 6 July 2018

Term 3—Monday, 23 July to Friday, 28 September 2018

Term 4—Monday, 15 October to Friday, 21 December 2018

- Students finish Wednesday 19 December 2018
- Staff Development Days Thursday 20 December & Friday 21 December 2018

#### Sport

JERSEYS, JERSEYS; Could anyone who has played in a school team for any sport this year please check bags, cup-boards and drawers for jerseys that have not been returned and return them to the office as soon as possible.

**REPRESENTATIVE SPORT 2018:** Nominations for all remaining 2018 Representative Sports Teams can be found on the Parramatta Primary Sport Website underneath. The nominations will remain open until —Friday 2 February 2018.

http://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/rep-selections

Mr Steve Kovelis, Sports Coordinator

#### Social Justice Skills and Mantras Program.

#### Week 10 - Generosity

 Be unselfish and always ready to give and share with others.

#### Prayers

We pray for those in our community who may be unwell at this time or suffering the loss of a loved one.



We pray for them through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

#### Choir of Angels

Years 1 Red and 1 Yellow will perform a song at assembly this Friday 8 December.

Years 3 Blue and 3 Yellow will perform a song at the Week 10 assembly, Friday 15 December.

#### Mrs Lyndall Parker & Miss Kathryn Young, Music Teachers

#### **Promotions** morning

Promotions morning will take place on Friday 15 December from 10-11 am. This is an opportunity for the children to meet their teacher and classmates for 2018.

The teachers have spent an extraordinary amount of time looking at each individual pupil, their needs in terms of the opportunity to learn, feel safe and supported within their peer group. Serious consideration has been taken in regard to your request of their learning and friendship groups. Every effort has been made by the teachers to place your child with at least one of their friends if possible and with a teacher who will support them in their learning and development as well rounded individuals.

Please make sure that when your child comes home on Friday 15 December, that you respond in a positive way with regard to their placement. Moving a child from a class at this stage is almost impossible because it not only affects one child but numerous other children who have been separated for various reasons to create a dynamic and supportive learning environment.

#### School Banking

School Banking for 2017 finished on Tuesday 5 December. School Banking will recommence on Tuesday 13 February 2018.

Thank you and farewell to Ms Kim Hanlon our Banking Coordinator who has volunteered her time to the School Banking for several years. We appreciate your assistance and wish you well for the future.

Thank you to Mrs Sarah McNally and Mrs Carmen Lucak for volunteering to look after the school banking in 2018 so that the children can continue to enjoy the rewards of saving and banking their money.

#### "Library Book Amnesty ;) "

As we draw towards the end of the year, please assist us by returning any St Michael's books to our library. Our books are clearly distinguishable with a **St Michael's School Library Barcode** on the front cover.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Patricia Lee, Teacher Librarian



#### Assembly Awards



Student of the V	Veek—Week 7
KQ BLUE	Koko Chen
KvG GREEN	Ema Kolak
KR RED	Samantha Nutt
KRT YELLOW	Emma O'Brien
1HS BLUE	Zara Stevens
1S GREEN	Billy Haddin
1G RED	William Ison
1F YELLOW	Neha Shah
2R BLUE	Natalie Williams
2J GREEN	Matthew Timbs
2P RED	Brooklyn Calma
2L YELLOW	Watson Smith
3B BLUE	Cooper Mostyn
3H GREEN	Jazelle Alexander
3C RED	Abigail Chan
3RC YELLOW	Christiane Barakat
4BM BLUE	Olivia Joseph
4G GREEN	Zoe van Zoggel
4P RED	Sarah Chue Hong
4I YELLOW	Alyssa Romeo
5K BLUE	Kayla The
5J GREEN	Ashley Jay
5M RED	Caelan Kustreba
50D YELLOW	Ben Boxshall
6F BLUE	Tim Goh
6B GREEN	Tiana Eltenn
6R RED	Phoebe Piper

#### Student of the Week-Week 8

Student of the	vveek-vveek o
KQ BLUE	Zoe Zhang
KvG GREEN	Oliver Michaels
KR RED	Rachel Martin
KRT YELLOW	Flynn Logan
1HS BLUE	Elijah Khoury
1S GREEN	Lincoln Barandiaran
1G RED	Morgan Gellel
1F YELLOW	Max Hall
2R BLUE	James Kelly
2J GREEN	Grace Zaitony
2P RED	Brooklyn Calma
2L YELLOW	Madeleine Nolan
3B BLUE	Daria Raguz
3H GREEN	Nicholas Carey
3C RED	Lily Moore
3RC YELLOW	Shawnah Bercich
4BM BLUE	Matthew Urquhart
4G GREEN	Lucas Galaz
4P RED	Pheonix Morrison
4I YELLOW	Jonathan Drury
5K BLUE	Alexis Turner
5J GREEN	Beatrix Hendry
5M RED	Elizabeth Paton
50D YELLOW	Alexia Anezis
6F BLUE	Stuart Small
6B GREEN	Damien Maait
6R RED	Jessica Betros
6M YELLOW	Sean Yeo

### SKOOLBAG—updates for 2018

communication tool-Skoolbagenables us to get alerts out to parents quickly. We use this tool as an addition to our existing methods of communication.

#### Alert category changes 2018:

- 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 in 2017, please change the category to Year 2 for 2018).
- The Kindy 2017 category will be deleted on Monday 29 January.
- "BUS" category—if your child catches the bus, please include this category for information on late running bus alerts.
- "Kindy 2018" category for alerts related to Kindergarten children commencing in

#### Contact details

If you change your contact details such as telephone numbers, address and/or email address, please contact the office to let us know so that we have your most recent details in our database. This can be done by emailing the school office at

stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au or calling 9639 0518.

#### News from 4 Red

**Taylor Khoury** 

6M YELLOW

The Colonial Show came to St Michael's and we learnt about early settlement and the arrival of the First Fleet There were 12 ships on the first fleet. We heard about the life in 1800's and 1700's. It also taught us about the weapons of punishment they used on the convicts. We learnt what the cat of 9 tails could do to someone. Xavier Saffy and William Hopkins.

On 30 October 2017, we had an incursion about before and after the First Fleet arrived here in Australia. We got to be involved with lots of activities like making soap out of pig fat and some squishy stuff from the environment and plants. We also got to see and feel a full body chain. It was extremely heavy. Tayla, Ysus and Elizabeth were soldiers and Tayla was the drummer. Georgia- Marie Barakat and Cristina Hurtado

It was really fun! They had two actors dressed up as convicts. One man had an Irish accent and was called James Murphy. The other had an English country accent and was called John Douglas. They were convicts who arrived on the First Fleet. There was a soldier called Sergeant John



Kennedy. He had a very scary voice. He was in charge and we all had to listen to him and follow all of the rules. We learnt a lot about back then when the First Fleet arrived. We both got picked and played the drum. Tayla Harris and Katherine Solina





#### Star Corner

Congratulations to Naden Cooray, Year 5 on his NSW Representative cricket competition results. Naden achieved the most Runs in U11s at Sydney District (18 Districts) Rep Cricket competition (from all of Sydney) and Most Runs for Hornsby District for any Representative Age Group. 260 Runs @ Av of 65.00, Highest Score 93\* not out. Well done!

#### Medications

If your child has medication at school, parents can collect it from the school office on the last day of school to take home. Please return any medication with a 12 month expiry if possible. Thank you.

#### Reading during the holidays

Please encourage your children to continue reading during the holidays. Further information:

http://theconversation.com/preventing-your-kidssummer-reading-slide-34361

### Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) 2018

MAIs will be completed on Monday 29 & Tuesday 30 January 2018. A letter with the details for booking assessments will be sent home and sent via the Skoolbag app. Bookings will be done through the *schoolsinterview* website and will **open on Friday 15 December at 6.00 pm.** 

Please book an assessment time for your child with the **2018** class teacher. There are only a limited number of bookings on these days, so if you are not available or there are no interview times left, the class teacher will organise the assessment in the first two weeks of the 2018 school year.

2018 Kindergarten parents will receive a separate letter with a different booking code informing them of which teacher to book the interview with.

#### Stationery requirements

A stationery requisite list will be shortly available on our website and sent via Skoolbag app.

The uniform supplier will now be selling the Years 2-6 Collins Australian School Dictionary and the Years 4-6 Pocket Thesaurus.

All items can be ordered on line by using the QKR App or by emailing your order form to elle@ozfashions.com.au

#### Stop and Drop Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers who have volunteered for this year. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated by everyone in our community.

Due to changes with some of our volunteers' commitments, we need to recruit some new volunteers to assist with Stop and Drop especially on Monday and Tuesday mornings.

All it requires is half an hour one morning once a month, so if you have ever thought you'd like to volunteer now is the time! Please contact Rebecca Duda at

rduda@westpac.com.au



## School Holiday Gymnastics Clinics

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Half Day Sessions (9.00am-12.30pm)

.30pm) \$40.00 per session

 $18^{th} - 22^{nd}$  December,  $8^{th} - 12^{th}$  January,

15th - 19th January and 22nd - 25th January

#### Term 1 2018

#### ${\bf Enrolments\ Now\ Being\ Taken}$

Classes for Boys and Girls 2 years and above

Book now on 9620 8323 or admin@sydneygymnastics.com.au
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The Ponds High School, Wentworth St, The Ponds







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Weddings

**Special Events** 

Lessons





School holiday programs in January at Macquarie University mq.edu.au/about/holidays



Community • Friendship • Education
St Michael's Primary School Parents and Friends Association Baulkham Hills





The winner of our Pizza Oven from Bunnings Castle Hill and basket of kids' pizza goodes from Terrazza Restaurant Chatswood was Zorka Madjic! **CONGRATULATIONS!** 









FRIDAY DAY 1122 **FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER** 

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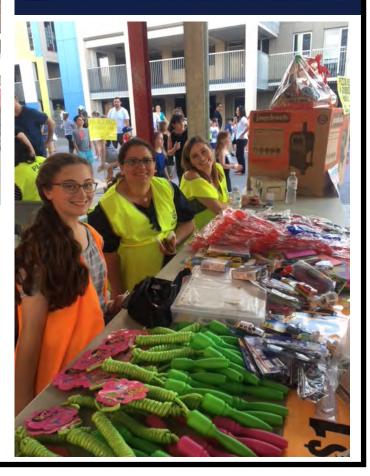






Our BBQ at the Disco was sponsored by Harcourts Hills Living, who are now a part of the St Michael's family, raised almost \$1000 for our school!

Harcourts Hills Living



# FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER

Community • Friendship • Education St Michael's Primary School Parents and Friends Association Baulkham Hills

With over 600 guests our Family Disco was a great night had by all! We had Harcourts catering the BBQ as a donation. We are grateful for their support of our school. The evening was rocked by the amazing DJ Berns. Our food vans were popular, especially the ice cream van (who doesnt like ice cream?). We had an army of great parent helpers on the night without whom we couldn't have had such a successful night - THANK YOU!! - the P&F Committee.

# Harcourts Hills Living

# SUNNINGS

**CASTLE HILL** 



terrazzachatswood.com.au (02) 9419 5304









# teels like home

All of our Disco sponsors and suppliers are either school families or friends of the school. All have donated their time, goods or have made a cash donation to the school from their sales on the night. With their help, we raised over \$7000 for the school!







**Teddy Bear's Picnic 2018** sponsors

Community • Friendship • Education

St Michael's Primary School Parents and Friends Association Baulkham Hills





https://www.facebook.com/groups/1731067690529537/ or search for "St Michael's P&F Helpers"









### About the Helper's Group No Meetings, Not a Committee, Opt in/Opt out, Occasional Help Only

The P&F is a group of volunteer parents that believe in fun & friendship whilst helping the school through fundraising events during the year. We also cater some special morning tea events.

Sometimes we need a few extra hands to help. We've started the Helper's Group. If you are interested in occasionally helping out, then this is the group for you. No meetings, not a committee, opt in/opt out, occasional help only - entirely up to you.

The Helper's Group is on Facebook. However if you are not on Facebook, no problem! Just email us your details or drop off the form below to the office and we will email or text you when helpers are needed, then it's up to you if you are available. No stréss.

Email: **pandfsmichaels@gmail.com** Thank you for your support! **\$-**....

Please pop into an envelope marked P&F Helpers and drop into the office.

res - I would					ase add m	ıy details to
the Helper's	Group. I a	m not o	n Facebo	ok.		

Name:			
Phone:	Email:		
Eldest Child:		Class:	

We are hosting the Kindergarten Teddy Bear's Picnic in early February 2018. We'd like to book a Face Painter and a Children's Entertainer. The event will run for 2 hours on a Saturday. If you are a parent with a business that does the above mentioned and may be able to look at a donation/promotion based booking, please contact the P&F for a discussion. We prefer to keep these things in the St Michael's family, rather than outsource.

# 2nd Hand Uniform Sale - Cancell

There will be no sale next week on Thursday 14th December as previously advertised. Apologies for any inconvenience.



Find us on Facebook

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!









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