



St Michael's Primary School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 1: Friday 29 April 2022

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 2

We hope that all of our families had a relaxing and enjoyable break.

Thank you for the way your children have returned to school—well presented in the correct uniform, correct hairstyles and shoes. We thank you again for your support.

The children change over into their **winter uniform** in Week 3—Monday 9 May.

Next weekend we celebrate **Mother's Day**. Mother's Day is a time of tribute and celebration for mum. It is a time for spoiling mum with breakfast in bed, family gatherings, thoughtful presents, sharing memories and the simple words 'I love you mum.' I would like to take this opportunity to wish all mothers a very happy, special day.

Thank you to our P&F Committee for their generous support in celebrating Mother's Day by setting up the online purchase of gifts and making themselves available on Tuesday 3 May for the distribution of the gifts. We appreciate the support of the P&F Committee and volunteers in helping to make the celebration of Mother's Day so much more enjoyable for our mothers.

Mother's Day Liturgy and Celebration - Friday 6 May at 9.45 am in the School Hall

All our mums, grandmothers and aunts are invited to our Mother's Day Liturgy, performance from the Junior Choir and each class on Friday 6 May commencing at 9.45 am in the School Hall.

As communicated in our letter yesterday, we ask that our mothers send in a digital photo of themselves with their child/children so that it can be included in our slide show.



Please register for this event via the email link sent home to our families.

Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences

These conferences will be held from Monday 9 May to Friday 13 May. Please ensure that you have booked a time with your child's teacher. Details of the booking online system were sent out yesterday.

Parent / Teacher / Student conferences open the eyes of students to their own learning and help them take personal responsibility for their progress. Parent / Teacher / Student conferences are valuable because:

- Students are given the opportunity to accept responsibility for their learning.
- Student-parent communication can be improved.
- Students become self-evaluative about their role in the learning process.
- Students become more conscious about what they are supposed to be learning in each Key Learning Area.
- Students self-identify their areas of strength and areas of weakness.
- Students (with their teacher's assistance) select work that accurately reflects their progress.
- Students and parents can see long-term growth and learning.
- Students work on improving their organisational and oral communication skills.
- Students, parents and teachers can engage in honest dialogue about student progress.

We hope that the Parent / Teacher / Student conferences will help to solidify the home-school partnership which is so important.

Change to dismissal time

As of Monday 2 May, dismissal for Kindergarten and Year 1 together with their siblings will take place at 3 pm. In order to alleviate the traffic in the Church car park please seriously consider using Slow & Go. This is a simple, safe routine which will ensure you pick up your child/children without the need to park. We all know there is not enough room in the Church car park for all our families. If you do not have a Slow & Go number please contact the school office to obtain one.

Farewell and Welcome

Thanks and best wishes to Miss Laura Flannery, Year 2 teacher, who has accepted a position in the Catholic Diocese Maitland-Newcastle. We thank Miss Flannery for her valuable contribution to the school and wish her every success in her new role.

We welcome Miss Brooke Marshall our new teacher in Year 2. We look forward to Miss Marshall joining the Year 2 team and know that our families will welcome her and work in partnership with their child's new teacher.

Rapid antigen tests

We have received our final allocation of Rapid antigen tests (RAT). Each child has received 7 Rapid antigen tests this week.

A Prayer for Mothers

Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its very beginning in the womb.

You have given women the capacity of participating with You in the creation of new life. Watch over every mother.

Give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble.

To mothers You have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a child's first teacher and spiritual guide.

Grant that all mothers may worthily foster the faith of their children, following the example of Mary, Elizabeth, and other holy women who follow Christ.

Help mothers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to their children, and to all who depend upon them.

We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all mothers who sorrow for children that have died, are ill or estranged from their families, or who are in trouble or danger of any kind.

Help grieving mothers to rely on Your tender mercy and fatherly love for all your children.

We ask your blessing on all those to whom You have entrusted motherhood.

May Your Holy Spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them.

May all mothers receive Your Grace abundantly in this life, and may they look forward to eternal joy in Your presence in the life to come.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Maka

ANZAC DAY 2022

The Castle Hill & District Sub-Branch held their ANZAC DAY Dawn Service at the Centenary of ANZAC Reserve, Castle Hill on ANZAC day.

Mrs Knispel attended the Service with our two School Captains, Leon and Amelia.

Leon and Amelia proudly represented our school and laid a wreath on behalf of St Michael's.

A word of thanks to the Cooray and Newman families for your support and for attending the Service with your children.

LEST WE FORGET

<https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsBHills/>



2023 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

We are currently taking enrolments for 2023 Kindergarten

Enrolment packages can be collected from the school office between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm

Enrolment Process:

Enrolment at St Michael's Primary Catholic Primary School includes the return of all the Enrolment Application forms (A, B, C) with the following documents

- Birth Certificate - copy and original for viewing
- Baptism Certificate - copy and original for viewing
- Proof of address must also be sighted, e.g. driver's licence or rate notice
- Immunisation History Statement (visit www.medicareaustralia.gov.au or call 1800 653 809 and request your statement)
- Passport with visa, if applicable - if you or your children were not born in Australia.

It is essential that both parents/guardians sign the different sections of the Enrolment Application. Your prompt return of this form will be appreciated.

New Families will be contacted as soon as possible for an interview.

Existing families in the school with Kindergarten 2023 children will be offered a place based on the Enrolment Application and supporting documents being received and finalised.

All schools in the Diocese will be making first round offers from 1 April.

For those children who have a diagnosis of learning difficulties, autism, or being on the spectrum, we ask that you provide the school with the appropriate report from the specialist or other practitioner. In that way the school can ensure that we have the appropriate resources and support in place for entry into school. We will contact you with regard to meeting you and your child to support their needs prior to them starting in 2023.

We look forward to your child starting with us in 2023!

Please contact the school office on 9865 1600 for further information.

NAPLAN Online Testing for Years 3 and 5 will be held during 10-20 May.

All Years 3 and 5 students require ear buds for these online tests.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy—important skills that each child needs to succeed in school and life. The NAPLAN tests are designed to help us make sure students are on track with their literacy and numeracy development. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in NAPLAN tests for reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Between 10-20 May 2022 our school will participate in NAPLAN Online. Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format.

To see the types of questions and interactive features of NAPLAN Online, visit:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment>

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

For more information on how to support your child during NAPLAN:

<https://nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

Prayers

Please keep in your prayers the Woodland family on the passing of Jacob & Elise's paternal grandfather and his partner.



Eternal rest grant to them Lord. Let Your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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

We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Social Skill Tips and Mantras

Week 2: The Circle Concept

- The 'Circle concept' teaches a child about personal space and appropriate behaviour with others, depending on what their relationship is to the child.

Week 3: Sign language: Thumbs up, thumbs down

- We all have the right to feel safe all the time.
- Sign language: Thumbs up: I feel safe.
- Thumbs down: I don't feel safe.
- This can be used in the classroom, playground and at home.

Week 4: Being positive

- People with a positive approach to life. Positive tracking: Looking for the good things is a way to succeed.

Calendar Dates

Week 2

Mon 2 May	School Assembly 2.15 pm Year 4 - registrations essential
Tue 3 May	P&F Mother's Day Gift Stall Motiv8 commences after school
Fri 6 May	Mother's Day Liturgy and Celebration 9.45 am School Hall - registrations essential Bookings close for Parent/Teacher/Student conferences

Week 3

Parent/Teacher / Student Conferences 9-13 May

Mon 9 May	Changeover to winter uniforms
Tue 10 May	NAPLAN commences for Years 3 and 5 10-20 May

2022 School Terms

Term 2 - Tuesday 26 April to Friday 1 July***

***Friday 1 July - Staff Development Day

Term 3 - Monday 18 July to Friday 23 September

Term 4 - Monday 10 October - Tuesday 20 December

Monday 19 December & Tuesday 20 December -
Staff Development Days

Changeover into Winter Uniform

Monday 9 May 2022

Children may continue to wear their summer uniform for the first two weeks of Term 2 but if the weather turns cold before Monday 9 May, children may wear their winter uniform. Children must either wear their full summer uniform or full winter uniform on these hot or cold days until 9 May.

From Monday 9 May all children are expected to wear their full winter uniform.

Please label all items clearly, especially hats and jackets. Children are responsible for their own belongings.

Orders for Winter Uniform

Winter uniforms are available on the QKR app.

Please note: We are happy to exchange if sizes are incorrect. Keep original tags and packaging on the item.

All exchanges need to be emailed to
elle@ozfashions.com.au

Staff Development Day - Friday 1 July

On Friday 1 July our staff will be undertaking a professional learning day.

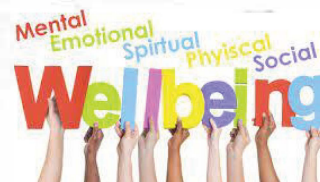
The school will be closed and no supervision will be provided.

Please make alternative care arrangements for your child/ren on this day. Thank you.

Wellbeing Newsletter Item

As we begin Term Two, our Wellbeing focus for Weeks 1 & 2 is **"We challenge ourselves"**. This is part of the **"Respect for Learning"** expectation. All students will be involved in setting their goals with the support of their parents and the classroom teacher. These will be discussed during the Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences in Week 3.

Class Micks will be awarded in the classroom when children are seen to be working at achieving these goals.



Taking leave for family holidays during the school term

Government regulations require you to seek leave approval from the school for holidays of 5 days or more prior to your journey.

Contact the school office for an *Application for Extended Leave (L) - Travel Leave—Form A.1* or [click here for the leave form](#).

Travel leave 1-4 days—please send in a compass/skoolbag app notification or an email to the school prior to your leave.

Term 2 School Fee Statements

Term 2 School Fee Statements will be issued on 3 May 2022. If you do not receive a statement or would like to discuss a payment arrangement please contact Mrs Adriana Grima (Finance Officer) on 02 9865 1600.

Canteen

If you need to make contact with the Canteen regarding your child's order, please call Healthy Canteens on 9678 9242.

IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION

At St Michael's we have a number of children with **life threatening allergies** (Anaphylaxis) to various forms of food, latex, dust, animals and insect stings.

Some children have allergies that are so severe that smells or touch could trigger a reaction.

In particular, we have a number of children who have severe allergies to nuts. While allergic reactions are common and most are not serious, for some people the reaction can be life-threatening. Anaphylaxis can occur within minutes of an exposure to a trigger.

We see prevention as a major part of providing a safe environment for these children. In order to support these children, we ask that you do not send in nuts or any foods containing nuts to the school with your children.

Common foods that trigger an allergic reaction are listed below and we ask you to be 'nut aware' and refrain from sending them to school and to seek suitable alternatives. The following list gives examples of such foods:

FOOD TYPE	EXAMPLES
Peanuts / peanut butter	Any kind of peanut or peanut butter
Tree nuts	Hazelnuts, almonds, cashews, pecans, walnuts, macadamia – any kind of nuts
Sesame seeds	
Nutella	Any brand
Biscuits containing or topped with nuts	Particularly chocolate biscuits
Cakes or slices containing nuts	
Snack packs containing nuts	Dried fruit + nut mixes
Chocolates containing nuts	Picnics, Snickers, Mars Bars (almond), Nut Breaks, Ferrero Rocher, Fruit and Nut, Praline based chocolates – Guylian, Marble Blocks, Toblerone
Chocolate lollies containing nuts	Peanut M&Ms
Marzipan and nougat	
Breakfast cereals containing nuts	Crunchy Nut or Honey Nut Cornflakes, Muesli, Nutri Grain, Just Right etc
Muesli Bars and Snack Bars containing nuts	
Yoghurt with nut mixer packs	
Confectionary items	Lolly Gobble Bliss Bombs, Rocky Road
"Health Food" confectionary bars containing nuts	Uncle Toby's yoghurt muesli bars
Foods containing satay	Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian meals

The Canteen does not sell any of these products.

In the case of a child bringing a nut product to school, teachers will bring the matter to the attention of parents.

There are many foods that DO NOT contain peanuts or nuts in their ingredients list, but the food package has the statement. "May contain traces of dairy, nut or seed". This food may be brought to school and consumed only by non-allergic children.

Due to safety and concerns, we discourage children from sharing food and drink. We would also appreciate parents speaking to their children regarding this matter. Your child's diet at home need not change.

Below is a list of foods that are safe for you to choose from. We're sure you can think of many others.

- Fruit and vegetables
- Dried fruits, Fruit snack packs
- Vegemite, jam, honey, cheese spreads
- Parker's Pretzels, Rice crackers
- Chips, Popcorn
- Plain biscuits – sweet or savoury – without nuts
- Chocolate biscuits – without nuts
- Fruit based muesli bars and snack bars – without nuts
- Yoghurt – without nut mixes
- Lollies and confectionary items – marshmallow, spearmint leaves, jelly babies, snakes, raspberries, etc without nuts.



Basically we ask you not to send food to school with your child that contains a nut or nut product listed in ingredients.

We thank you for helping us to provide a safe environment for all children at St Michael's.



Got questions? Try Alpha!

Alpha is a fun and informal way to get together to think about the bigger questions of life, faith and meaning. There's no pressure, no cost and no follow up. The format is simple: we start with a light supper, watch a film and share ideas in a warm and welcoming environment. Join us on **Wednesday 11 May 2022 at 7.20 pm at St Michael's Primary school hall.**

Click [here](#) to register

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St Michael's Primary School

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