



St Michael's Primary School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 10: Friday 31 March 2023



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents / Caregivers

At the end of Term 1, it is important to acknowledge what the children have achieved to date over these past eleven weeks. We can see the commitment and engagement to their learning and it provides a great foundation to build on for Term 2 and the rest of the year. We thank our children for being actively present in their learning and showing respect for their peers, staff and community.

Thank you to our families for their support and attendance at the Meet and Greet with the classroom teachers and to our teachers for the work they do in the classroom to make sure that we maximise the learning for the children.

Thank you to the parents who act as volunteers with the Stop & Drop and who assist on excursions, in the classrooms, and with the P&F activities. All these efforts and commitment make St Michael's such a wonderful community.

Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences

Parent / Teacher / Student conferences will be held in Term 2 Week 4 (15-19 May). An online booking form will be sent home next term.

Holy Week

St Michael's School will celebrate Holy Week on Tuesday and Thursday. The celebration and re-enactment of Psalm Sunday up to Easter Sunday will take place for the children only in the Church.

Please understand that we are a large school and as such there is very little room to accommodate the parents in the Church.

The re-enactment of Holy Week is a celebration of the events of Jesus' life and is a way for the children to gain a real understanding of what happened during Holy Week and why Easter is the most important feast day for us as Catholics.

Parents are welcome to join their child's class when they attend the Parish Mass. The dates of these will be included in our Newsletter.

Easter Hat Parade

The children from Kindergarten to Year 2 will be taking part in an Easter Hat Parade on Wednesday 5 April commencing at 9.15 am. Parents are welcome to join us for this fun celebration.

Mathematic Workshop Kindergarten - Year 2

Thank you to the parents who were able to join us for this Maths workshop.

Approximately 80 parents were in attendance. This number of parents attending any workshop is outstanding. We thank you for your interest and the important role you play in supporting your child with their learning and working in partnership with the school.

Thank you to Mrs Fleming and Mrs Rogers for organising and running the workshop.

We look forward to seeing as many people present for the Year 3-6 Maths workshop which will be held on Wednesday 5 April commencing at 6 pm.



Staff development day

Just a reminder that Monday 24 April will be a professional development day for staff and therefore children do not attend school on this day.

The school will be closed and no supervision will be provided. Please make alternative care arrangements for your child/ren on this day.

The Staff of St Michael's will be participating in professional development on the new English and Mathematics syllabus for Kindergarten to Year 2, which we are already implementing and continue to develop; and the new Years 3-6 Mathematics and English syllabus which will be compulsory in 2024.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Complaints

If you have an issue regarding any student's behaviour towards your child, please do not approach the other child's parents. Please approach your child's teacher.

Incidents that happen between children at school should be managed by the teachers at school without the parents approaching each other in the car park or other locations.

All issues raised by parents regarding any incidents involving your child are always fully investigated and if they are of a serious nature parents will be automatically contacted.

Your child's teacher and the school have your child's best interests at heart.

St Michael's is committed to providing a safe and caring environment for all children. Our Complaints Handling Policy is included in this Newsletter.

Easter

Happy Easter! Well the greeting might be a little ahead of its time but there is no doubt that the theme for Easter is one of rejoicing and celebration. For Christians, Easter is the most important feast in the church's year. It is the time when we rejoice in the new life Christ gave to us through his Death and Resurrection.

Also, we are far enough into the year to feel we have accomplished something and deserve a break; we're ready to relax and have some fun. We don't exactly ignore Christ but if we are not careful Easter Bunnies and Easter Eggs can tend to take centre stage. This can lead us to forget the challenge Christ offered when he taught that what we have is less important than what we are and that the things that happen to us are less important than the way we react to them. In short, through His Life, Death and Resurrection, Christ gave us HOPE and the incentive to travel joyfully the road of life.

Easter is a time for drawing inspiration from Christ's life.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday and the commencement of Holy Week. The events of Holy Week can be a great source of comfort and encouragement, particularly if life for us is not quite going the way we would like it to go, for in a sense it mirrors the way in which Christ's life was going.

Good Friday seemed to end it all for Jesus and his followers and yet the cross has become the symbol of hope for so many people over the past two thousand years. However, the cross of Good Friday has no redemptive power of itself; it is the heart of the man on the cross that makes the difference.

Good Friday's cross was a cross of redemption, meant to save and free us from the bondage of our own sins, failings, sufferings and fears.

It can be easy to simply focus on the "big events" that occur over Easter and forget about the life of Jesus before these momentous events. Jesus' attention had been focused on offering fellowship to the poor, the marginalised, the outcasts and it was from these groups that he chose the people who were to be leaders when he was no longer there. Jesus' work now continues through us Christians - Christ followers - who, in the Mass and the Eucharist, eat and drink with him after he has risen from the dead.

For Christians, Easter is the matchless remedy for all forms of hopelessness. The Resurrection of Jesus is the basis for the deep trust that cultivates our faith and love. Easter is never over, Jesus lives on in all Christians; it is in us that his presence is in the world.

Prayer

God, our Father, We thank You for the Spirit within us.

We ask that the Spirit strengthens us with courage and hope in times of difficulty and with generosity towards all other people in our lives. Amen.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.



Danuta Maka



Enrolling now for Kindergarten 2024 and Years 1-6

Phone 9865 1600

Email: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au



OPEN MORNINGS FOR KINDERGARTEN 2024

Thursday 4 May 2023
commencing at 9.30 am

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2024 Kindergarten Applications - Existing Families and New Families

All schools in the Diocese will be sending out their first round offers on 1 April 2023. Our first round offers will be posted on 1 April 2023 for families who have submitted their Enrolment Applications.

There are still places available for Kindergarten 2024 and we look forward to receiving applications as soon as possible.

Please contact the school office on 9865 1600 for further information about enrolling at St Michael's and to organise a visit to the school.

Wellbeing

The Wellbeing expectation that we have been focusing on for the final two weeks of this term is:

"We use kind words and show manners".

In class, children are reminded about what this looks and sounds like. It includes saying please, thank you and excuse me. It also involves speaking in a positive tone and using respectful language.

Congratulations to Quinn who were the winning Mercy House for the last 5 weeks of term.

The children in Quinn were rewarded with a Zooper Dooper and free time on the oval.



Changeover to Winter Uniform

Children may continue to wear their summer uniform for the first three weeks of Term 2 but if the weather turns cold before Monday 15 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 15 May.

From Monday 15 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 now available on the QKR app.

Please place your orders on the QKR App to make sure your child has a winter uniform for Term 2.

**The first delivery after the holidays will be Friday 28 April.
The last delivery before the holidays will be Tuesday 4 April.**

Please note: Ozfashions are happy to exchange if sizes are incorrect and have not been worn. Keep original tags and packaging on the item.

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

CALENDAR DATES		Prayers	
Week 11		<div>We pray for those in our community and the world around us who may be unwell or suffering at the moment.</div> <div></div>	
Mon 3 Apr	Student & Citizen of the Term Awards School Assembly 2.00 pm* 4H Yellow		
Tue 4 Apr	Whole school Holy Week Non-Eucharistic Liturgy - students only		
Wed 5 Apr	Kindy-Year 2 Easter Hat Parade* Years 3-6 Maths Parents workshop 6 pm*		
Thurs 6 Apr	Whole school Holy Week Non-Eucharistic Liturgy - students only School finishes for Term 1 - 3.10 pm		
TERM 2 - WEEK 1		Social Skill Tips	
Mon 24 Apr		Week 11: The Network Hand	
Tues 25 Apr		<div><div>The 'Network Hand'. The children list five people, from various areas in their life that they trust and can go to if they need help. These people must be over 18 years of age.</div></div>	
Wed 26 Apr		Term 2 Week 1: Mantra 3 - Dobbing vs Telling	
Thurs 27 Apr		<div>Are you dobbing or telling?</div> <div><div>Dobbing', is when you are trying to get someone into trouble.</div><div>'Telling', is when you are getting your 'EARLY WARNING SIGNS'. You feel unsafe, so you must tell someone you trust who will listen to you. At school this is a teacher.</div></div>	
WEEK 2		School photos - Save the date	
Mon 1 May		<div>School photos for 2023 will take place on</div> <div>Tuesday 30 May</div> <div>Further information will be sent home in Term 2.</div>	
Tues 2 May		School Fees	
Wed 3 May		<div>Instalment 1 (Term 1) fees are now overdue. Should you wish to discuss a payment plan or have any queries regarding your account please contact our Finance Officer Mrs Adriana Grima on 02 9865 1600.</div>	
Thurs 4 May		School Terms	
WEEK 3		<div>Term 1 - Friday 27 January to Thursday 6 April</div> <div>Term 2 - Monday 24 April* to Friday 30 June</div> <div>*Monday 24 April - Staff Development Day</div> <div>*Tuesday 25 April - ANZAC Day Public Holiday</div> <div>Term 3 - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September</div> <div>Term 4 - Monday 9 October - Tuesday 19 December*</div> <div>*Monday 18 December & Tuesday 19 December - Staff Development Days</div>	
Mon 8 May			
Tues 9 May			
Wed 10 May			
Thurs 11 May			
Fri 12 May			
WEEK 4 - Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences			
Mon 15 May			
Tues 16 May			
*Registration essential			



Year One having fun

Year One have been enjoying time playing with the new "Big Blue Blocks".

The Big Blue Blocks are "loose parts" that prompt children to transform their environment and create a play space of their own. Big Blue Blocks contain a wide variety of loose parts, including cubes, bricks, cogs, curves and cylinders.

The parts however, are not simply loose. They have holes and shapes that fit together in ways that allow the continuation of a child's idea, and an irresistible invitation to imagine, create and design.



St Michael's Parish Easter Liturgy 2023 - Mass Times

6th April	7:30pm	Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper)
7th April	10:00am	Good Friday (Stations of the Cross)
	3:00pm	Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
8th April	5:30pm	Holy Saturday (The Easter Vigil)
9th April	8:00am	Easter Sunday (Sunday of the Resurrection)
	10:00am	Easter Sunday (Sunday of the Resurrection)
	6:00pm	Easter Sunday (Sunday of the Resurrection)



PROJECT COMPASSION

Spanning across the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion brings thousands of Australian schools, parishes and supporters together to raise funds for people living in some of the most vulnerable communities across the world.

Your generous support can help change lives today and for all future generations.

During each week of Lent, the children will be given the opportunity to reflect on the positive impact the donated funds are having on the lives of different people in poverty.

To find out more: <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/>

To donate: <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/donate>



Change of email or home address

Please let us know when you change email addresses as you may not be able to access Compass. If you have any difficulty logging into compass and the password is reset, the log in details will go to the email address in our system.

Text messages are also sent to our parents. Please ensure that we have your up-to-date mobile number, home address and email address.

Nut aware school - no nuts

Please be conscious about what your child brings to school and shares as some of our children have severe allergies to nuts that may require the use of an EpiPen when exposed to nuts - Anaphylaxis.

We ask our families not to give their child any product that contains nuts as it can be potentially life threatening to a child who may be exposed to nuts, even from someone's breath.

If sending in cakes or lolly bags for your child's birthday, please do not provide lollies or cakes that contain nuts.



PARISH OF BAULKHAM HILLS

2023 Sacramental Programme Details for The Sacraments of Initiation and the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Children of Catechetical Age who have been baptised.

St Michael's Church ~ 1 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills
Our Lady of Lourdes Church ~ 1 Canyon Road, Baulkham Hills

Term 3 Sacrament of Reconciliation ~ children must be 7.5 years before the celebration
Online Registration : Friday 16 to Friday 30 June
Parents' Information Evening : Monday 17 or Tuesday 18 July
Celebration : Monday 21 to Friday 25 August (venue, dates & times to be advised)

Term 4 Sacrament of Eucharist ~ children must be 8.5 years before the celebration
Online Registration : Friday 1 to Friday 15 September
Parents' Information Evening : Monday 18 or Tuesday 19 September
Celebration at St Michael's :
Friday 10 November / 17 November ~ 7.30pm,
Saturday 11 November / 18 November ~ 2.30pm
Sunday 12 November / 19 November ~ 12noon and 2.30pm
Celebration at Our Lady of Lourdes :
Friday 24 November ~ 7.30pm
Saturday 25 November ~ 2.30pm
Sunday 26 November ~ 9.30am



COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Policy and Procedures

At St Michael's Primary School, Baulkham Hills, the dignity of each individual is valued and the rights and beliefs of all members of the community are respected. St Michael's follows the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures which is available from the school office and on the school website.

However, from time to time concerns may arise between different groups within the school community. At St Michael's we aim to attempt resolution as soon as any concerns arise.

Procedural Fairness

We endeavour to ensure that our student behaviour procedures and strategies allow for procedural fairness. We believe that procedural fairness is a basic right of all when dealing with school authorities. We apply the "right to an unbiased decision" and the "hearing rule".

The "right to an unbiased decision" includes the right to:

- impartiality in an investigation and decision making
- an absence of bias by a decision-maker

The "hearing rule" includes the right of the student against whom an allegation has been made to:

- know the allegations related to a specific matter and any other information which will be taken into account in considering the matter
- know the process by which the matter will be considered
- respond to the allegations
- know how to repair relationships and to "make things right"
- know how to seek a review of the decision made in response to the allegations.

In order to ensure procedural fairness, school staff need to be allowed to investigate and respond to matters in an appropriate manner. Parents must always communicate directly with the staff of the school when they have concerns about student behaviour, rather than approach individual students or parents with their concerns

Parents

Complaints or grievances pertaining to classroom issues or that relate to other children are to be dealt with by school personnel. It is not appropriate for parents to approach other children or other parents while on school premises to resolve issues.

The recommended procedure to be followed by parents is:

- The first point of contact is the child's class teacher. An appointment with the teacher should be made via the school office or directly with the teacher.
- If parents are not satisfied with the solutions offered or believe they have not been given a fair hearing, they are encouraged to make an appointment with either the Principal or Assistant Principal, to discuss the issue further.
- Parents are reminded that there are always two sides to every story and while it is important to listen to their own child, it is also just as important not to draw conclusions or make accusations until all the facts are known.
- Parents may also contact Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta for further discussion.
- All parties should aim to work towards a mutually agreeable solution to the grievance.

Students

The recommended procedure for students who have complaints or grievances is:

- If and when issues arise in the classroom, students are encouraged to speak to the class teacher in order to seek assistance in finding a resolution.
- Students encountering problems on the playground are asked to talk to the staff member on duty, who will then if necessary refer it to the class teacher or one of the school's Leadership team.
- Students may also speak to any other staff member regarding any issues.

Employees

The recommended procedure to follow is the procedure set out in the Diocesan "Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures."

Appeal

A person who is not satisfied the matter has been resolved appropriately may choose to appeal to the Principal of the school if the Principal has not been involved in investigating or examining the complaint, or is not the person named as the source of the grievance / complaint.

Alternatively an appeal may be made to the Director of Performance for the school who may be contacted at the CEDP.

For CEDP matters an appeal may be made to the Executive Director of Schools.

Further information can be found on our school website:

<https://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/-/media/Files/CEDP/Sites/Primary/StMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills-Files/2022-files/Policies/complaints-grievances.pdf>

Shop for your School

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***Starts Term 2 Week 2**

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Thurs 13th - Fri 14th APRIL

motiv8sports.com.au



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PREMIERS '22 PARRA

Bringing items to school

Please ensure that your child does not bring any item to school that is valuable to them in case they are lost or broken. Children are responsible for their own items.

Parent Volunteers

Parent Helpers are required to have completed the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Building Child Safe Communities (BCSC) – Volunteer online Undertaking and Training.

Once you have completed the training, please send your name and BCSC number to the school.

[Click on this link to start the Undertaking and Training](#)



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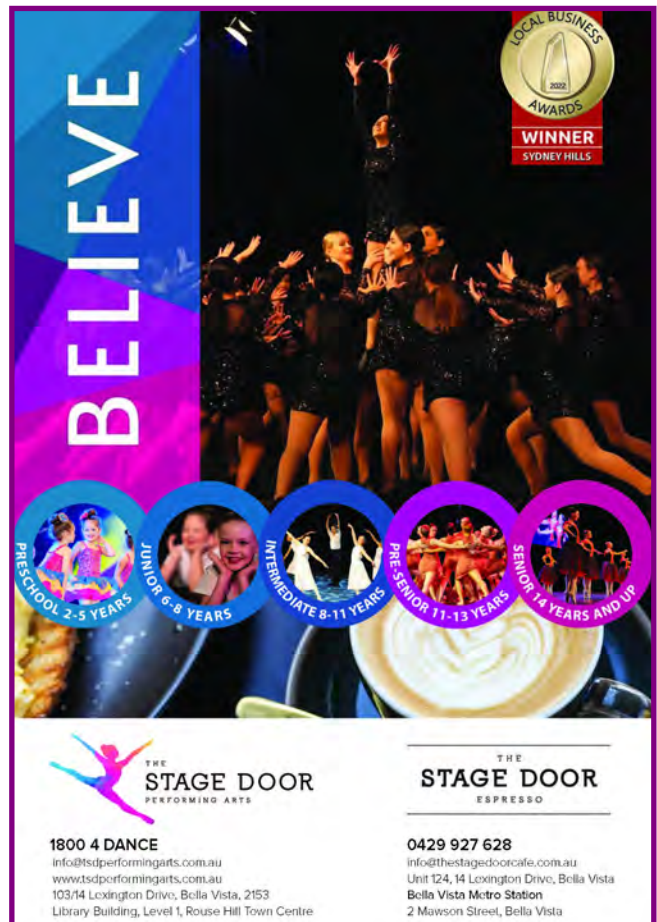
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AGES:
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JUNIOR 6-8 YEARS
INTERMEDIATE 8-11 YEARS
PRE-SENIOR 11-13 YEARS
SENIOR 14 YEARS AND UP

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