

St Michael's Primary School Tewsletter

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Baulkham Hills Email: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au

Issue 4 Term 1 Week 8 Thursday 16 March 2017

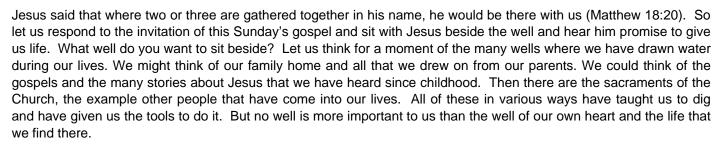
From the Principal

Dear Parents

Mrs Linda Borsato, Finance Secretary

Please keep Mrs Linda Borsato and her family in your prayers. Eternal rest grant to her, Lord. Let your perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Lent



So, as we examine our lives this Lent, we will need to face up to and name the ways in which we take love for granted or give in to the distractions that draw our hearts away from love. We do need to do this, so that our repentance and healing will be real. When we dare to look into our hearts we will see some beautiful things. We will also see things we are not proud of. That is why it is important to have Jesus sitting beside us. He reminds us that as we are, we are loved by his Father. He reminds us, too, that our hearts are temples of God's Spirit. As he said at the Last Supper: "If you love me my Father will love you, and we will come to you and make our home with you" (John 14:23).

"Loving Father, you cleansed our sins in water and made us new creations in you. Renew us again this Lent, making our lives fertile and fruitful, and providing us spirits ready to do your will. Amen"

Best Practice for Parents

Parenting best practice, synthesised from research and clinical experience - helps parents reshape children's challenging behaviour, create strong family bonds, and guide children toward becoming happy, kind, and responsible adults.

Effective strategies include: Great parents do what they say they are going to do, Great parents see that actions speak louder than words, and Great parents are transparent about their decision-making process.

One easy-to-implement tip is replacing the word 'but' - which can have negative connotations - with 'and', which sounds more agreeable. For instance, instead of saying "That was a good job but you missed out an important part" you could say "You did a great job and you could consider this part too."

It's best to avoid labels. If your son is reluctant to join an activity, resist commenting to other adults that "He's just shy." Acting shyly is a behaviour and not always a permanent characteristic. Your child is listening and could come to think of himself in the manner you're describing. Even a positive label should be avoided. By labelling your child clever, they may internalise this as "I am smart/creative/good at sports and I want to stay that way," which might lead to a reluctance to try new things for fear of failure and no longer being defined by that label.

For parents with older children, there is one last tip, titled 'Great parents start where they are'. Rather than fretting over past actions, keep in mind that you can only act on what you know, and most parents have been doing the best they can with what they know so far. Thankfully, most children are both resilient and forgiving; they are more like hardy weeds than delicate flowers.

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Maka



Enrolling now for Kindergarten 2018

Phone: 9639 0518

Email: stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au



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 <u>www.medicareaustralia.gov.au</u> or call 1800 653 809 and request your statement)
- Passport with visa* (if not Australian Citizens).

Please note:

Originals of all documents must be sighted at the interview or upon lodgement of the Enrolment Application via the school office.

It is essential that both parents/guardians sign the different sections of the Enrolment Application.

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 before the end of the term.

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

Religious Education

Project Compassion—Caritas

The children continue the raise money to support the annual Caritas Australia Project compassion appeal. The aim of this fundraiser is to support our vulnerable neighbours worldwide. The money collected will be utilised to create safe, resilient communities that will be enriched and transformed. We thank you in advance for the support of this worthy appeal.

Martina's story -Timor-Leste—Love Your Neighbour

For Martina, Caritas Australia's Protection Program offered far more than just shelter from domestic violence.

After I left Uma PAS, I felt confident for my future." Martina

For Martina, an East Timorese mother of eight, escaping domestic violence was the first step in her journey to a new life. But at first, her future seemed very uncertain. Timor-Leste is one of the least developed countries in the world, with extremely low levels of basic health, literacy and income. Most East Timorese live in rural areas, with very limited access to basic services or livelihood training, and many households don't have enough food year round.

The shelter where Martina sought refuge, Uma PAS, offered her many ways to transcend these challenges. Uma PAS is a partner in Caritas Australia's Protection Program, a holistic community-wide program in Timor-Leste that offers women like Martina economic empowerment and a life of safety in a supportive community.

Through the program, she was linked with a network of support services, and this enabled her to undertake livelihood training and start a small business to support her children. The program also linked her with a supportive community.

"Martina is a person who did not want to give up, but wanted to be able to support her family," her counsellor at the shelter says. Through the Protection Program, Martina says, "I have learnt how to change my life to support myself, and my children."

"Education is the most important thing to change my children's lives"- Martina

St Michael's Parish Youth Group

Years 5 and 6

St Michael's has been for years hosting youth groups that span from Years 7-12, but in recent years has formed a youth group for those in Years 5 and 6, and would like to formally invite you to attend. The youth group itself is host to a whole heap of games and activities, as well as small group sharing, and looks to strengthen relationships with each other and with God. This year we are hosting the youth group every second Sunday, and kick off by providing lunch at 4 pm, after the youth group formally finishes at 5 pm—we invite those that wish to come—to the Youth Mass, where they will be accompanied by other youth and youth leaders. If you have any questions regarding the youth group, or in regards to getting involved in the youth movement at St. Michael's, email stmichaelsyouthbh@gmail.com, 0407 773 174.

This week for Years 5 and 6: 19th March from 4.00-5.30 pm at the Downey Room, we will be having a St. Pat's themed youth group, so be sure to wear something green.

Stations of the Cross

This year as in past years we, the youth movement will be hosting a passion play at the parish, however we are in need of volunteers! If you're interested be sure to contact Paul on 0407 773 174, we are looking for people from Year 5-any age upwards, with our first rehearsal on the 20 March from 3:30-5.00 pm.

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					
Thu 16 Mar	Parish Mass: 6 Yellow & 6 Blue 9.15 am Yr 1 Reading Club 2nd Hand Uniform Sale 2.30 pm School Hall					
Fri 17 Mar	School Assembly 9.00 am—Prayer 1 Blue					
WEEK 9						
Tue 21 Mar	Mrs Linda Borsato's Funeral—St Michael's Parish Church 11 am					
Wed 22 Mar	NSWCPS Swimming Championship Parish Mass: 3 Green & 3 Red 9.15 am 6 Blue Reconciliation 10.00 am 6 Yellow Reconciliation 10.30 am 6 Red Reconciliation 11.45 am 6 Green Reconciliation 12.15 pm Yrs K & 1 Excursion "Diary of a Wombat" @ Riverside					
Thu 23 Mar	Parish Mass: 4 Blue & 4 Red Yr 2 Excursion "Horrible Harriet" @ Riverside					
Fri 24 Mar	P&F Locks and Socks Mufti Day (Gold coin donation) School Assembly 9.00 am—Prayer K Blue					
WEEK 10						
Tue 28 Mar	Yrs 2-6 Cross Country					
Wed 29 Mar	Parramatta Touch Trials Parish Mass: 2 Blue & 2 Green 9.15 am 4 Yellow Reconciliation 10.00 am 4 Green Reconciliation 10.30 am 4 Red Reconciliation 11.45 am 4 Blue Reconciliation 12.15 pm P&F General meeting 7.00 pm					
Thu 30 Mar	Parish Mass: 1 Blue & 1 Green 9.15 am Yr 3 Excursion "The 13 Storey Tree House" @ Riverside					
Fri 31 Mar	Mackillop AFL trials School Assembly 9.00 am—Prayer 6 Red					
WEEK 11						
Tue 4 Apr	Whole School Holy Week Non-Eucharistic Liturgy 12 pm					
Wed 5 Apr	Whole school photos—Summer Uniform					
Thu 6 Apr	NSW Swimming SOPAC Student & Citizen of the Term Awards 2.30 pm					
Fri 7 Apr	No School Assembly Whole School Holy Week Non-Eucharistic Liturgy 10.15 am End of Term 1—3.10 pm					
	iding representative sport are regularly added to the school's calendar on our website:					

http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/calendar-of-events

Social Skills and Mantras Program.

Week 9: Mantra 1—Stop! No! Go.

- Stop! I don't like it when you ... (name what you don't like)
- No! I asked you to stop ...
- If the behaviour continues: Go and tell the teacher on duty.

Week 10: Mantra 2—Public and private behaviour and language

 Public or Private? Children need to be responsible for their language and actions. Certain behaviour may be acceptable at home or in a private place that it is not acceptable in the classroom or playground.

Stop & Drop

When cars are stopped beside the yellow lines to let their children out, please do not overtake by driving on the yellow lines on the inside of a vehicle as children are alighting from their cars. A driver almost knocked a child over recently doing this. There is no driving or parking on the yellow lines in school zone periods. Please follow safe driving practices at all times.

St Michael's Place - Convent

There are boom gates behind the Parish Church which lead to the convent area. This is a private road and in use regularly. Please do not walk on the roadway; walk on the grass instead. We have been advised that there have been some near misses as drivers are entering and exiting this area.

Children have also been seen holding onto the boom gate while it is operating. They risk serious injury if they fall.

Please ask your children to walk on the grass and watch out for cars in this area.

Uniform

Winter uniforms are now available. All size samples are at the office for trying on.

Last day of delivery for this term will be on Friday 7 April.

Orders will still be taken during the school holidays via email and our first delivery for Term 2 will be Friday 28 April.

Thank you, Elle, Ozfashions.

Calendar Dates—2017

Term 1—Friday, 27 January to Friday, 7 April

Term 2—Monday 24 April to Friday, 30 June

- Monday 24 April—Staff Development Day—Pupil free
- Tuesday 25 April Anzac Day Public Holiday
- Wednesday 26 April—Students Resume for Term 2

Term 3—Monday, 17 July to Friday, 22 September

Term 4—Monday, 9 October to Tuesday, 19 December

- Friday 15 December Students Finish for 2017
- Monday 18-Tuesday 19 December—Staff Development Days—Pupil free

Assembly Awards

Week 6 Students of the Week

KR RED Xavier Parker KRT YELLOW **Hugo Wilkins KvG GREEN** Kelson The **KQ BLUE** Samuel Rizk 1HS BLUE **Audrey Agudo** 1S GREEN Hannah Maait 1G RED Sophie Lynch 1F YELLOW Kaidyn Olic 2P RED **Dominic Lawrence 2L YELLOW** Midhushan Packiarajah 2R BLUE Isabelle Hughes 2J GREEN **Matthew Timbs** 3C RED George Savill 3H GREEN Sienna Pai **3B BLUE** Laura Maung **3RC YELLOW** Lainey Hall **4I YELLOW** Jaiden Kennedy **4G GREEN** Mary Boutros 4P RED Patrick Johns 4BM BLUE Isabella Mannino 5M RED Kayla Eltakchi 5J GREEN David Haddad **5K BLUE** Kaitlyn Nada **50D YELLOW Thomas Williams** Matthew Grech 6F BLUE Samuel Durantini **6M YELLOW 6B GREEN** Jakub Walkow **6R RED** Cooper Lindsay Sport Isabella Achurch Participation Ioli Pampaka

Star Corner

Congratulations to Holly Brettle, Billie Gwynne, Lauren Nada

(Under 9 girls) and **Mikayla Eltenn** (Under 10 girls) who were part of the winning teams in their divisions in the NSW Oztag Junior State Cup held in Coffs Harbour in February. Well done!

Congratulations to Caitlyn Lynch, Sophie Lynch and Kate Kennedy on being selected as Highly Commended students in Interrelate's 2017 "Say No to Bullying" poster competition and being shortlisted for the Northern Sydney region. Well done!

Year 6 Parent Run Formal

It is that time of year to get started on planning the Year 6 formal. If anyone would like to be part of the formal Committee, please RSVP Lina Terlikar at linaterlikar@hotmail.com. We will be meeting on 3 April 2017, time and place to be confirmed.

Student Absence—New changes to taking leave 2017

The following outlines the changes that have been implemented by the Catholic Education Office Diocese of Parramatta regarding attendance. These changes take effect immediately.

New requirements for student absence and travel

- 1-4 days absence: Parents must notify the school principal by mail or email (written).
- 5 or more days absence: Parents must complete and submit the Application for Extended Leave form (A1) prior to commencing leave. If approved the Principal issues a Certificate of Extended Leave (C1). If the principal declines this application (i.e it is not within the best interest of the child to take leave and be absent from school), a letter notifying parents that the application has been declined would be forthcoming.

Exemption from attendance

This relates to students who wish to participate in an accredited Elite Sports Program/Elite Arts Program, Employment in the Entertainment Industry or where there are exceptional circumstances.

- If the intended absence will be **under 100 days**, parents should complete and submit the *Exemption from Attendance* (A2) to the principal. The principal has the authority to **approve up to 100 days** each calendar year. If approved the principal will issue a *Certificate of Approval*.
- If the intended absence will be over 100 days, parents must complete and submit the Exemption from Attendance (A2) to the principal who will make a recommendation to the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) Director System Performance (DSP).
- The DSP will then investigate the matter and will make a recommendation to the Executive Director. The Executive Director reviews the Exemption from Attendance and forwards a recommendation to the Minister of Education. If this application is approved the principal, will issue a Certificate of Approval (C2). Should this application be declined by the Minister, the principal will issue a letter of decline.

For additional information on accredited Elite Sport Program and Elite Arts program, contact the school office.

The Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has procedures and guidelines in place to achieve high standards of student attendance in collaboration with parents. Parents are required by law to ensure that children aged between 6 and 17 attend school. Schools are required to monitor and keep a register of student attendance in accordance with common codes which explain absences.

Children arriving late to school—Partial absences

Children who arrive late to school after the first bell are required to go to the school office to sign in and collect a late pass. Parents are required to sign their child in and provide a reason. When children arrive late without a parent to sign them in they are marked as an unexplained partial absence.

We understand that there may be unforeseen circumstances from time to time where your child may be late but there are some children who are late on a regular basis. 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.

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 20 March and 31 March 2017 all staff, 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.

The survey will 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.

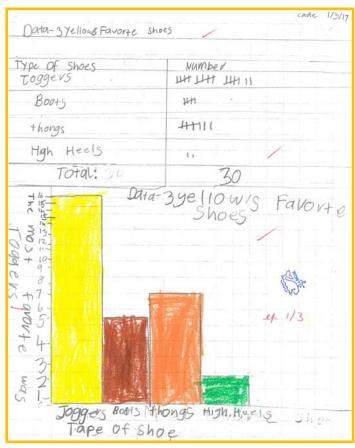
As a parent if you are randomly-selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

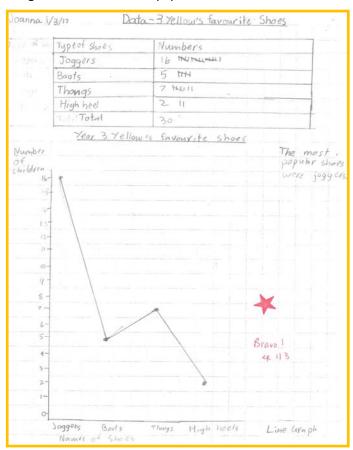
If you have any questions please contact Mrs Rosalie Knispel, Assistant Principal.

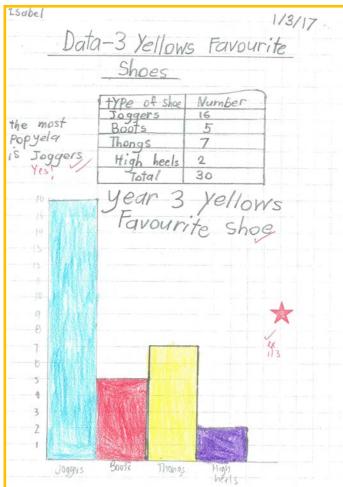


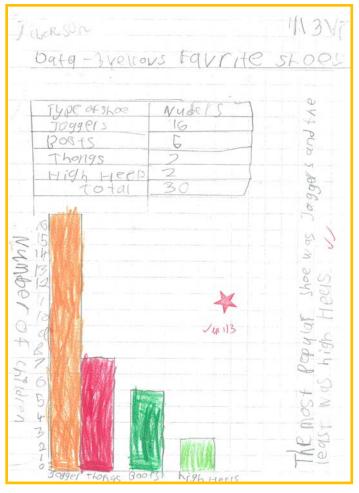
News from 3RC Yellow

Early this month, Year 3 were looking at data and the different ways to collect data and represent data. We surveyed 3 Yellow to find out their favourite shoe type. The children then recorded the results in a table and represented their results on a graph. We found that joggers were the most popular shoe type in our class and high heels were the least popular shoe.











Community • Friendship • Education

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

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.



Friday 24th March 2017

A day to wear your best crazy hair! Spray! Colour! Ribbons! Clips! Wigs!



or wear a crazy and fun Hat!

AND Your wildest, craziest socks!



If everyone could please bring a gold coin donation!



CAN WE **PROMOTE** YOUR **BUSINESS?**

This year the P&F would like to source goods and services from our school community rather than from outside as much as we possibly can. We would like to be able to help our parents with businesses or resources by promoting them in return. If you have goods or services you think would be suitable for a school event, email:

pandfstmichaels@gmail.com

At the moment we are looking for a nutritionist or dietitian who is willing to do a talk at the school. Please contact us!

St Michael's Parents Friends Association 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

				As at 10.3.17 (subject to changes)
TERM 1				
Thursday	16-Mar	2nd Hand Uniform Sale	2.30pm	School Hall
Friday	24-Mar	Mufti Day - Hair/Hat and Socks	-	
Wednesday	29-Mar	P&F General Meeting	6pm	All welcome. Speaker TBA
Monday	3-Apr	Mother's Day Raffle Tickets Sent Home	-	
TERM 2				
Thursday	11-May	Mother's Day Gift Stall	-	Mother's Day Raffle Drawn
Friday	12-May	Mother's Day Morning Tea	11am	
Wednesday	24-May	P&F General Meeting	6pm	All welcome. Speaker TBA
Thursday	1-Jun	2nd Hand Uniform Sale	2.30pm	School Hall
Friday	9-Jun	Mufti Day - Casual Clothes	-	

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!







www.play.afl

Registrations now open for Baulkham Hills Hawks AFC

Auskick program for ages 4 to 8

- learn to play footy in a fun environment
- Sunday morning at Charles McLaughlin Reserve, Crestwood

Sunday junior footy competition for ages 9 to 17

- new and experienced players welcome
- girls U12, U15 and U18 teams

Contact Kylie Stanmore 0406 270 372 registrar@baulko.org.au



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

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

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.

Crestwood Early Learning Centre

Extensive School Readiness Program 18 months - 6 years

Qualified Staff

Computer Based Learning

Meals Provided

- **Fully Accredited**
- CCB available

Open till 6 p.m.

Tel: 9624 5931 44 Kalimna Drive Baulkham Hills 2153

(Close to Crestwood Public School)

HILLS Junior Rugby Club

PLAY THE BEST GAME AT THE BEST CLUB IN 2017

- AGES 4 TO 6 Two Handed Tag
- AGES 7 & 8 Introduction to Tackle Ages 9 to 17 Modified Rules Colts and Seniors International Rules

Register before March 17th Season Starts on the 1st of April

Contact our registrars for more information:

- Sam Pethybridge -0419900239



www.hillsrughv.com.au

registrar@hillsrughy.com.au





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