



# St Michael's Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday 5 February 2021

Term 1 Week 2

Issue 1

3-5 Chapel Lane,  
Baulkham Hills

Tel: 9865 1600 Fax: 9865 1699  
Email: [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### *From the Principal*

Dear Parents

#### *Welcome to St Michael's*



Welcome to a new year of education for your child! To all our families and caring community we offer the warmest of welcomes. We hope that the uncertainty caused by COVID-19 last year will not cause us as much disruption this year.

The beginning of every school year is always a time of change. Kindergarten starting school, children moving to a new class, a new teacher and making new friends.

Our job as parents and educators is to help them manage these changes and to set them up for success.

We all know that children receive the best education when parents and teachers work as a team. Parents' enthusiasm, support and involvement are integral to the success of our school as are the skills, dedication and professionalism of teachers. Together, staff and parents can provide educational excellence for every student so that they can achieve their personal best. It is important to keep in touch with the school. Stay aware of what your child is learning, their learning goals and how they are progressing.

Attend the Parent Meet and Greet Meeting in Week 4 and share information regarding your child as a person and learner. Good communication is vital to create and sustain a climate that is conducive to productive learning. Together, we can support one another to provide a friendly, academic environment and, when appropriate, celebrate our achievements.

We hope that throughout the year, our school will be a place where staff, students and families have opportunities to experience God's presence in our lives. We can all try to model God's love for each one of us, by being a renewing community where all members are valued, affirmed and empowered; where our commitment to Gospel values is expressed in every facet of our school's endeavours.

This will require our collective wisdom and generosity of spirit to be at the forefront of all our communications. We look forward to working in partnership with you and your child/children for a happy and successful year.

Once again, Welcome to the New School Year. May we value one another as important people in our lives.

*"Lord, please assist all members of our school community to "put our heads together and make our school a best seller". Help us to understand that this school is in our hands as we are the people responsible for giving our school its life now. May our contribution always be positive and reflect the important values of love, care and forgiveness. Amen."*

#### *Parent Meet and Greet "Collaboration for Success"*

In Week 4, there will be an opportunity for you and your child to meet your child's teacher, and spend five minutes giving information about your child as a learner and person. This is a meeting for every parent instead of parent information nights. The online booking information for these meetings has been sent home and is again included in this newsletter. The bookings open on Monday 8 February at 9 am.



Parents will receive a letter each term outlining the learning for each curriculum area, the expectations, outcomes and how parents can support their children's learning. General information will also be included regarding sport days, homework and excursions.

## *Welcoming Liturgy and Induction of our Student Leaders*

Unfortunately COVID restrictions still remain in place for the number of people we can have in the Church, therefore we are looking at having a liturgy in the Hall on Friday 12 February at 10.15 am for students only. Parents will not be able to attend due to the 4 sq m rule. We will, however, invite the parents (two adults only) of our student leaders to join us for this Liturgy which includes the induction of our student leaders. We will continue to update you with regard to the COVID guidelines for schools.



## *Student Leadership Positions 2021*

Congratulations to the following students on their leadership positions this year. They will be presented with their badges at the opening School Liturgy on Friday 12 February at 10.15 am. We wish them every success as they strive to be great role models to other students and fulfil their leadership responsibilities this year.

### **School Captain**

Ava Griffiths  
Anthony Naim

### **Vice Captains**

Teleigha Eleter  
Angus Herriott

### **Colour House Captains**

#### **Mercedes (Blue)**

Eadie Velez, Ashton Crawford

#### **McAuley (Gold)**

Mia Simic, Drew Fleming

#### **Quinn (Green)**

Charlotte Ursino, Matthew Saaib

#### **Clare (Red)**

Isabelle Hughes, Jackson Ward

### **Community Leaders**

Spencer Bennett  
Elizabeth Daniele  
Lizanne Fernandes  
Ava Galang  
Charles Magdic  
Lilly McCaughey  
Anthony Toubji

## *P&F Committee*

At the end of last year the P&F held their Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in achieving a quorum for the committee. We are still in the position of not having an active P&F, although the 2020 P&F Committee have agreed to remain in their positions until a new committee is elected. The P&F will hold an Extraordinary Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 17 February at 6.30 pm in the Staff Room. We hope that enough people from across the school will agree to be part of this very important team that contributes so much to our school community.

The main role of the P&F is not fundraising. The main role is to build community and we have been blessed over the years to always have parents who are willing to put their hand up and take up a role on this committee.

Without the P&F we wouldn't have a group that provides opportunities for parents to network and make our school community special.

We appreciate the work and commitment of our P&F and hope that our St Michael's school community will continue the tradition of having a P&F Committee. We are looking forward to members of our school community stepping up to support us through their role on the P&F committee. The activities that the P&F support are vital to a child's experience of community during their time at primary school.

## *Religious Education Coordinator*

Mr David Ison has been seconded to work in another school in the Parramatta Diocese. Mrs Jennie Meniconi has been appointed as the Acting Religious Education Coordinator.



We thank David for his hard work, genuineness and support as the Religious Education Coordinator at St Michaels and we wish Mrs Meniconi every success in her new role.

Miss Maree Anderson has been appointed as Acting Assistant to the Religious Education Coordinator. We look forward to working with her in this new role.



## *Learning Support*

Mrs Karen Brown has taken leave from St Michael's for 12 months. We wish her every happiness during this time.

## *Early Years Assessment (EYA)*

At this time of the year our children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will have their Early Years Assessment.

The National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy stated that “the assessment of all children by their teachers at school entry and regularly during the early years of schooling is of critical importance in the teaching of reading and in particular to identify children who are at risk of not making adequate progress.”

This assessment at the beginning, middle and end of year provides the teachers with information on the child’s instructional reading level, together with information regarding the strategies the children are using to read and also data that assists your child’s teacher with the next step for his/her learning. To administer this test, the teachers are given time out of the classroom. Teachers will administer the EYA this term. The Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) is also administered at the beginning of the year from Kindergarten to Year 6. This data ensures that every student receives quality instruction at their level.

## *Teachers out of class*

Currently we have three EMU (Extending Mathematic Understanding) specialist teachers working in the school:

*Mrs Danielle Fleming      Miss Gabriella Herzog      Mr Vaughan Knight      Mrs Erin Ward*

These teachers work with a group of students who require some extra support to help them reach the benchmark for their grade. These lessons occur every day for 45 minutes a day. During this time a designated teacher replaces them to take their Religion class. As far as possible it is the same teacher on the same class. Please understand that there are occasions where this is not possible as the teacher may be on leave.

Each Leader of Learning has one day a fortnight to work with their grade partners and support the children’s learning across the grade. The relief teacher for the Leader of Learning and REC is the same person throughout the year. The REC has three days a fortnight.

As with all professions, teachers have to maintain their accreditation through their attendance at professional learning. Sometimes these take place during the day in which case a relief teacher will be employed. We have a bank of relief teachers and always endeavour to employ the same person for a class.

Teachers also have their entitlements such as long service leave, sick leave, family leave, maternity leave and bereavement leave. On any occasion when a teacher is absent the relief teacher follows the class teacher’s program and has the support and guidance of the other teachers on the grade.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

## *School Assemblies*

School Assemblies continue for the children on Monday afternoon at 2.30 pm. Non-essential visitors are not permitted on site, therefore school assemblies will take place for the children only at this stage.

School assemblies at the beginning of the week give us the opportunity to set the scene for the children in terms of their learning and behaviour expectations. These expectations will be reinforced on a daily basis.

As part of our Wellbeing Policy and Positive Behaviour Support for Learning Framework (PBS4L), we have moved away from the “Student of the Week” award to a whole school approach to reinforcing consistent effort and achievement in Respect for Self and Others, Respect for Learning and Respect for the Environment.

In the classroom students will have their own “Mick” Award chart. When a student receives 20 Micks they will receive a Bronze Certificate. Bronze Certificates will be recognised at assembly. If a student receives three Bronze Certificates they will receive a Silver Award. Silver Awards will be presented at weekly assemblies. If a student receives two Silver Awards they will receive a Gold Award provided they are meeting our Respect expectations. Gold Certificates are presented at our weekly assembly. Each student with a gold certificate will also be given a badge that they are able to wear at school.

This accumulation of certificates is not restricted to a calendar year but stays accumulating throughout the students entire time at St Michael’s.

*Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.*

*Danuta Maka*

## *St Michael's Parish*

**Parish Priest:** Fr Wim Hoekstra

**Assistant Priest:** Father Chukwunonyerem Akamadu (Fr Chinonye)

### *2021 Staff of St Michael's*

Principal:	Mrs Danuta Maka	1C	Mrs Philippa Cox
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Rosalie Knispel <i>(Year 4 Leader of Learning)</i>	1Mc 1W	Miss Brooke McDonald Mrs Erin Ward
Librarian:	Mrs Patricia Lee <i>(Kindergarten Leader of Learning)</i>	1O	Miss Courtney Orman
PDHPE:	Mr Steven Kovelis	2A	Miss Maree Anderson <i>(Acting Assistant Religious Education Coordinator)</i>
Music:	Mrs Lyndall Parker Miss Kathryn Young	2F	Miss Laura Flannery
Support Services:	Mrs Sue Ellen Adler Mrs Mary Anne Parsons	2J 2P	Mrs Brigitte Joseph Mrs Natasha Petrenas <i>(Year 2 Leader of Learning)</i>
Diversity Teacher:	Mrs Therese Restuccia		
Reading Recovery and Literacy Support:	Mrs Berenice Gerometta <i>(Year 1 Leader of Learning)</i> Mrs Bronwen Wahab	3D 3GC	Miss Carla De Chellis <i>(Year 3 Leader of Learning)</i> Mrs Maureen Gleeson
Teacher's Aides:	Mrs Maria Butt Mrs Marina Grainger Mrs Narelle Harding Mrs Jenny Holliday Mrs Davina Kustreba Mrs Nancy Woods	3S 3MO 4AF 4DF 4L	Miss Marian Craven Miss Annie Owusu Mrs Marie Orehek Mrs Amanda Feil Mrs Danielle Fleming Mrs Candice Lazaroo
Finance:	Mrs Adriana Grima	4H	Mrs Rachael Hakim
Administration:	Mrs Anna Crowther Mrs Veronica Isaac Mrs Janelle Reid Mrs Kylie Ross	5F 5OD 5M	Mr George Francis Mrs Julie Day Mrs Rosa Oliveri Mrs Noella Michie
Library Assistant:	Mrs Marianne Seny	5R	Miss Victoria Rogers <i>(Year 5 Leader of Learning)</i>
Groundsman:	Mr Chad Buckman		
Teacher release:	Mrs Ros Brighton Mrs Kath Downie	6B 6BR	Mr Andrew Baker Mrs Aprill Bray
KH	Miss Gabriella Herzog	6K	Mr Vaughan Knight
KvG	Mrs Louise van Gend	6M	Mrs Jennie Meniconi <i>(Acting Religious Education Coordinator &amp; Year 6 Leader of Learning)</i>
KIT	Mrs Natalie Irvine-Hendry Mrs Natalie Tierney		

---

## Enrolling now for Kindergarten 2022



Open Morning  
**Tuesday 9 March and Tuesday 23 March 2021**

**9.30 am – 11.00 am**

Phone 9865 1600

Email: [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### Calendar Dates

#### WEEK 3

<b>Mon 8 Feb</b>	School Assembly 2.30 pm
<b>Tue 9 Feb</b>	Kindergarten Literacy & Numeracy workshop 8.45-10.00 am—Bookings essential Safer Internet Day
<b>Thu 11 Feb</b>	Kindergarten Literacy & Numeracy workshop 8.45-10.00 am—Bookings essential
<b>Fri 12 Feb</b>	Welcome 2021 Liturgy for students 10.15 am

#### WEEK 4

#### Parent / Teacher Meet and Greet Meetings "Collaboration for Success"

<b>Mon 15 Feb</b>	School Assembly 2.30 pm
<b>Tue 16 Feb</b>	Shrove Tuesday
<b>Wed 17 Feb</b>	Ash Wednesday
<b>Fri 19 Feb</b>	Hills Zone Swimming Carnival

#### WEEK 5

<b>Mon 22 Feb</b>	School Assembly 2.30 pm
<b>Tue 23 Feb</b>	Diocesan AFL Trials
<b>Wed 24 Feb</b>	Diocesan Football Trials

#### WEEK 6

<b>Mon 1 Mar</b>	School Assembly 2.30 pm Diocesan Netball Trials
<b>Tue 2 Mar</b>	Diocesan Rugby League Trials
<b>Thu 4 Mar</b>	Years 2-6 Cross Country
<b>Fri 5 Mar</b>	Clean up Australia Day

#### WEEK 7

<b>Mon 8 Mar</b>	School Assembly 2.30 pm - Prayer 1 Michie
<b>Tue 9 Mar</b>	2022 Kindergarten Open Morning 9.30-10.45 am
<b>Thu 12 Mar</b>	Cross Country Years 2-6

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.

### Social Skill Tips for Parents

#### Week 2: R from Respect

- Respect myself, others and property
- Recognising the worth, quality and importance of others despite their differences.

#### Week 3: E from Respect

- Everyone has the right learn.

#### Week 4: S from Respect

- Strive to be the best you can be.



### Prayers

Please keep in your prayers Hannah Maait (Yr 5) and her family on the passing of her paternal grandfather.



Please keep in your prayers Daniel Eltehn (Yr 4) and his family on the passing of his maternal grandfather.

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

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

We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

### Stop and Drop Volunteers Needed

Thank you once again to all the volunteers who have volunteered for this year, however we still need to recruit some new volunteers to ensure Stop and Drop continues in 2021.



All it requires is half an hour one morning, once a month, so if you have ever thought you would like to volunteer now is the time!

Please contact Mrs Liz Kalal at [lizkalal@gmail.com](mailto:lizkalal@gmail.com)

### 2021 School Terms

**Term 1—Wednesday, 27 January to Thursday, 1 April**

**Term 2—Monday, 19 April to Friday, 25 June**

**Term 3—Monday, 12 July to Friday, 17 September**

**Term 4—Tuesday, 5 October to Friday, 17 December**

## 2021 Kindergarten Literacy and Numeracy Skills Workshops

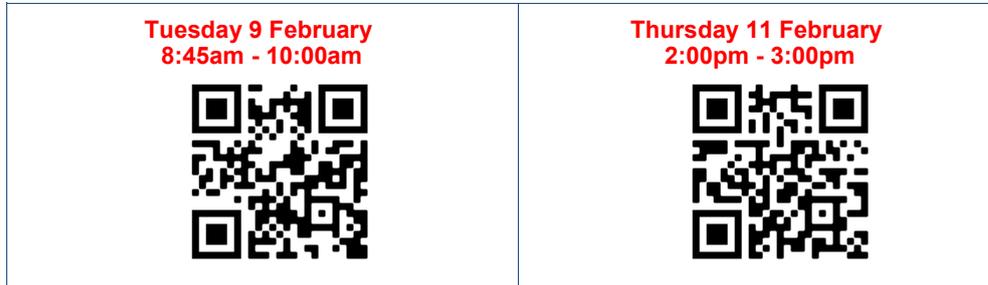
### **“How can parents assist the development of their child’s Literacy and Numeracy skills?”**

We are offering two sessions of **“How can parents assist the development of their child’s Literacy and Numeracy skills?”**, a literacy & numeracy workshop, for our 2021 kindergarten parents. Kindergarten teachers will facilitate these workshops which will provide resources, ideas and information to assist you at home as we begin the shared partnership of educating your child.

The dates and times for these workshops are:

1. **Tuesday 9 February 8:45am - 10:00am**
2. **Thursday 11 February 2:00pm - 3:00pm**

COVID-19 restrictions and protocols remain in place. For this reason, we ask you to reserve your place via the QR Code below because numbers need to be restricted for each session. Thank you. *The Kindergarten Teachers*



### *Parent pick up*

Social distancing rules require us to encourage our parents to pick up their children promptly and leave the school grounds as soon as possible.

Due to the large number of children who use the top playground gate to exit we ask that once the gates are open that you proceed into the school grounds and collect your child. Waiting on the ramp for your child to walk to you creates a bottle neck and for this reason we have in place a procedure for entry and exit via the stairwell.

#### **Stairs to top playground**

- Please walk down the left aisle of the stairwell marked “Entry”, proceed to the top playground and collect your child. When leaving from the top playground please exit via the stairwell on the left.
- Children must not leave the top playground and meet their parents on the ramp.
- Children must be accompanied by a parent in order to leave the school grounds unless we have written permission for them to walk home from school.



### *Photographs taken at school*

From time to time photographs may be taken of your child whilst they are at school. These photos may be used in school Newsletters, publications and the school website. They may also be used by Catholic Education, Parramatta Diocese in their publications and website. If you do not wish your child’s photo to be taken, please put this in writing and address to the Principal, Mrs Maka.

## Reconciliation 2021 St Michael's Church

Parents are invited to register their children who are 7 to 8 or older (children must be 7.5 years before the celebration) for Reconciliation from the 4 – 14 February using the GOOGLE FORM. There will be no need to attend a Parents' information evening at St Michael's.

There will be a presentation available via YOUTUBE which deals with the matters which would normally have been covered at the parents' meeting.

The Workbooks for Reconciliation will be available from the Parish Office or through the schools, date to be advised, and you will have four weeks to complete the workbook with your children. Please do not do the whole book at once!

Each of these four weeks will have a PDF PARENT GUIDANCE NOTES each week for you as parents to use with your children, as you go through each session.

Towards the end of the fourth week, there will be some ZOOM conferences for which you can register in order to ask some questions or seek clarification.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March, times to be advised. This is dependent on COVID restrictions and the number of candidates for the sacrament.

### **RECONCILIATION - ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH –Key Dates:**

**Registration week online: 4 – 14 February**

#### **Reconciliation**

<b>Week 1</b>	22 February
<b>Week 2</b>	1 March
<b>Week 3</b>	8 March
<b>Week 4</b>	15 March

**Celebration of the Sacrament: afternoon Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March 2021.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Father Wim or contact your Parish Office for further information or Email: [sacs pobh@gmail.com](mailto:sacs pobh@gmail.com)

Registration URL: <https://forms.gle/p6jicUpTARVZsAAWx8>

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2898435107213971215>

### ***Star corner***

Congratulations to Sienna K who competed in the Australian Showcase National Dance Championships and received two amazing achievements. She danced in both Junior and Pre Teen troupe sections. Her 'Constant Groove Dance Studio' Junior and Pre Teen jazz troupes received first place and the highest score overall in their age sections. They were awarded the 'Junior Troupe and Pre Teen Troupe Australian National Dance Champions' titles.

It was Sienna's first experience at this prestigious event. Well done!



## E-Safety Commissioner Webinars for parents and carers

**Tuesday 9 February 2021** is Safer Internet Day.



The eSafety Commissioner is conducting webinars for schools, including a virtual classroom for **middle and upper primary students** from 8 to 15 February and for parents and carers from 9 February to 22 March.

Join one of the webinars for parents and carers, at no cost.

These live webinars explore the latest research and they are a great way to learn how you can help your child develop the skills to be safer online.

All sessions are delivered by eSafety's expert education and training team.

### ***eSafety's parent guide to cyberbullying and online drama***

This Safer Internet Day 2021 webinar will look at how parents and carers can support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships and what to do if things go wrong.

It will cover:

- starting conversations with your child about their online friendships and positive ways to deal with changing relationships
- understanding the rights, laws and community expectations that govern social media use
- where to seek help if your child is involved in a cyberbullying incident.

The webinar will include case studies, research and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences.

To find out more about the **virtual classroom**, please click on the link below:

[Virtual Classroom: Be an eSafe kid: fake news, real harms](#)

### ***Details of dates and how to register are outlined below***

- ◆ Monday 8 February at 9.30 to 10.15 am
- ◆ Monday 8 February at 1.30 to 2.15 pm
- ◆ Tuesday 9 February at 11.00am to 11.45am
- ◆ Wednesday 10 February at 9.30 to 10.15 am
- ◆ Thursday 11 February at 10.30 to 11.15 am
- ◆ Monday 15 February at 9.30 to 10.15 am

[Register now](#)

[Further information](#)

### ***Second-hand uniforms***

As much as we would like to support our families with a second-hand uniform sale, we are not in a position to sell second-hand uniforms at this time due to COVID.

We do not have the personnel to be able to organise and supervise the following of the guidelines for social distancing.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

## General School Information

### Wellbeing policy

St Michael's aim is to provide a safe, pleasant environment for all children, staff and parents which fosters a sense of belonging, positive self-esteem and a love of learning.

Our Wellbeing Policy is contained in our Parent Handbook and is also available for viewing on our website under Policies and Procedures.

### Curriculum

This year St Michael's will continue to focus on literacy and Religious Education. Our goal in literacy is to improve the writing skills and vocabulary of all students. In Religious Education our goal is to help the students develop a deeper understanding of sacred scripture. The staff at St Michael's are committed to providing quality education for all students.

### Communication with families

Communication between St Michael's and students' families is vital in the ongoing partnership that exists between school and families.

We will communicate with parents via our Skoolbag App alerts, electronic newsletter distribution and letters sent home. Instructions on downloading the Skoolbag App are contained in this newsletter and on our website. If you change your email address at any time, please inform the school office as soon as possible.

### Skoolbag

Our Skoolbag App enables us to get alerts out to parents quickly.

### Alert category changes 2021

- Please change your alert categories to the current Year that your child is in so that you receive the correct alerts, eg if your child was in Year 1 in 2020, please change the category to Year 2 for 2021.
- BUS category—if your child catches the bus, please include this category for information on late running bus alerts.

### Early collection of children from school

If there is a need to collect your child early from school, please send a note to the classroom teacher in the morning.

**Please also call the school office prior to your arrival** so that your child can meet in you in the office when you arrive. This way you are able to leave quickly.

Parents are not permitted to go directly to classrooms or other areas to collect their children.

Recess is from 11.00-11.30 am

Lunch is from 1.00-1.40 pm

If you are collecting your child around Recess or Lunch, we suggest you organise to pick up your child prior to, or after, Recess and Lunch times.

Please allow plenty of time as it will take a few minutes to contact your child, have them pack their bag and walk to the school office.

### School Attendance

It is **important** for your child's wellbeing and academic progress that they attend school regularly and complete each school day. **Children need to attend school every day from 8.45 am until 3.10 pm unless illness prevents their attendance.**

Please ensure that appointments are made outside of school hours in order to ensure that your child can maximise their learning potential. Learning takes place from 8.45 am until the final bell at 3.10 pm.

**Being late or taking your child early from school, particularly on a regular basis, may hinder their personal and academic progress.** This is often reflected in school reports.

Parents taking their children out of school on a regular basis will be contacted by the Principal. Should you need to take your child out of school early on an unavoidable occasion, a note should be sent in to the class teacher. This will minimise the interruption to learning time for all students. Please avoid disruption to teachers and students by arriving unexpectedly to pick up children without prior notice.

### School absence

If your child is sick for you can send a Skoolbag app notification, email or call\* the school office.

If you inform us with a Skoolbag notification or via email, you do not need to send in another note.

*\*Please note—If you call the office you will still need to send a signed note listing the days absent and reason.*

### 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—From A.1*. This form is also available on our website under School Notes.

Travel leave 1-4 days—please send in a written note to the school prior to your leave.

### Taking leave for the entertainment industry or an elite sporting event

Government regulations require you to seek an exemption from the school for all leave in the entertainment industry or elite sporting events. Contact the school office for an *Application for Exemption from Attendance at School (M) - Form 1.2*. This form is also available on our website.

### School Uniform

Thank you to all our families for supporting the school uniform policy and by ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform. This includes wearing joggers that are predominantly white. It is essential that students wear their hats during recess, lunch and sport. Please ensure your child's hat is labelled and that they assume responsibility for looking after their hat at all times.

We do not encourage children to share hats or borrow hats. The office does not provide spare hats to children who have forgotten their hats. This is for hygiene reasons.

### School Assemblies

Unfortunately, at the moment due to COVID it is not possible to have parents join us for our Monday afternoon assembly which takes place from 2.30 pm every Monday.

## Important information regarding Arrival and Departure



Outlined below is some information regarding safety in the mornings and afternoons as you walk and drive in the streets around the school.

Please remember at the beginning of the year that we have many new parents to the school who will take time to adapt to our school routine. We thank you for your assistance and patience in helping our new parents as they find their way with our normal school routine.

### Arrival of children in the morning

- Teachers are on duty for supervision of children from 8.20am. Children currently wait in the undercover area on the top playground. The children must wait on the seats in front of the library.
- Parents are responsible for their children until teachers go on duty at 8.20 am. If at all possible, please do not send your children to school before 8.20 am.

### Stop and Drop – Church car park

To ensure the Stop and Drop runs smoothly and efficiently please note the following:

- The **yellow zig zag lines** along the fence line of the school in the Church car park are for **pedestrians** only and there is **no parking along these lines**.
- In the morning the children need to **exit** the car in front of the first entry gate into the school on the **passenger side** of the vehicle, not the driver's side.
- **Bags** need to be with your child not in the boot.
- If you are in the Slow & Go line, please **do not exit your car** to take bags out of the boot.
- Please say your **goodbyes** to the children before they exit the car.
- Please be **patient and show courtesy** to the **volunteers** and **other users** of the Parish car park. If the car in front of you is not moving on, please be patient and give them a chance. Please **remember** that we have many **new families** to the school and parents are learning the Stop & Drop system.
- Please **do not turn right** into the carpark from 8.15 am.

### Collecting children from school

- Children go home via the back path, slow and go, bus, parent pick up or go to OOSH.
- The safety of all children and families is the highest priority at the beginning and end of each school day in the car park and streets around St Michael's, Crestwood Public and Crestwood High School. **Please give safety your first priority** as you drive to school and/or park.

- **We urge you to drive safely, follow and obey the road rules, park in designated areas only and be constantly aware of children, adults and cars as you arrive and depart at this peak time.**

### Slow & Go – Church car park

- Slow & Go takes place in the Church car park.
- The **yellow zig zag lines** along the fence line of the school in the Church car park are for **pedestrians** only and there is **no parking along these lines**.
- Please **do not queue** in the Slow & Go in the Church car park **until 3.20 pm** as pedestrians are exiting the school in large numbers via the yellow zig zag path along the fence line.
- Please remember this is a **high traffic area for pedestrians** with many small children around.
- **Safety is everyone's responsibility.**

### Pedestrians in Church car park

- If you and your children are pedestrians entering the car park in the morning or exiting the car park in the afternoon, please keep your **children by your side and hold their hand**.
- Please be **conscious of cars** that may be **reversing** out of car parking spaces. Please remember that it can be **harder to see a smaller person** than an adult.

### Back path street area - Therese Court, Bernadette Place, Miriam Court, Coolock Crescent

- A reminder to everyone to be **respectful of our neighbours**.
- Please **do not park across the driveways** of homes or double park.
- Please keep your **children by your side** and do not allow them to play in neighbours' front yards.
- Parents need to **move on** from these streets as soon as they have collected their children so that we are not creating a backlog of traffic in the area.
- Please do not allow your children to play in the creek areas.

### Carpark

It is a privilege for St Michael's to use the Parish car park. For this practice to continue we need to treat our parish community with respect and not park in the Parish allocated spaces. There is also no parent parking in the St Michael's Family Centre or in any areas around the Church entry and exit.

**Safety of children and adults is critical when collecting children from school. Please observe all parking signs and road rules when collecting children to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school and community.**

**We thank you for your assistance and courtesy in ensuring the safety of everyone during access to the school.**

## Parish Car Park—Slow & Go (Afternoons)

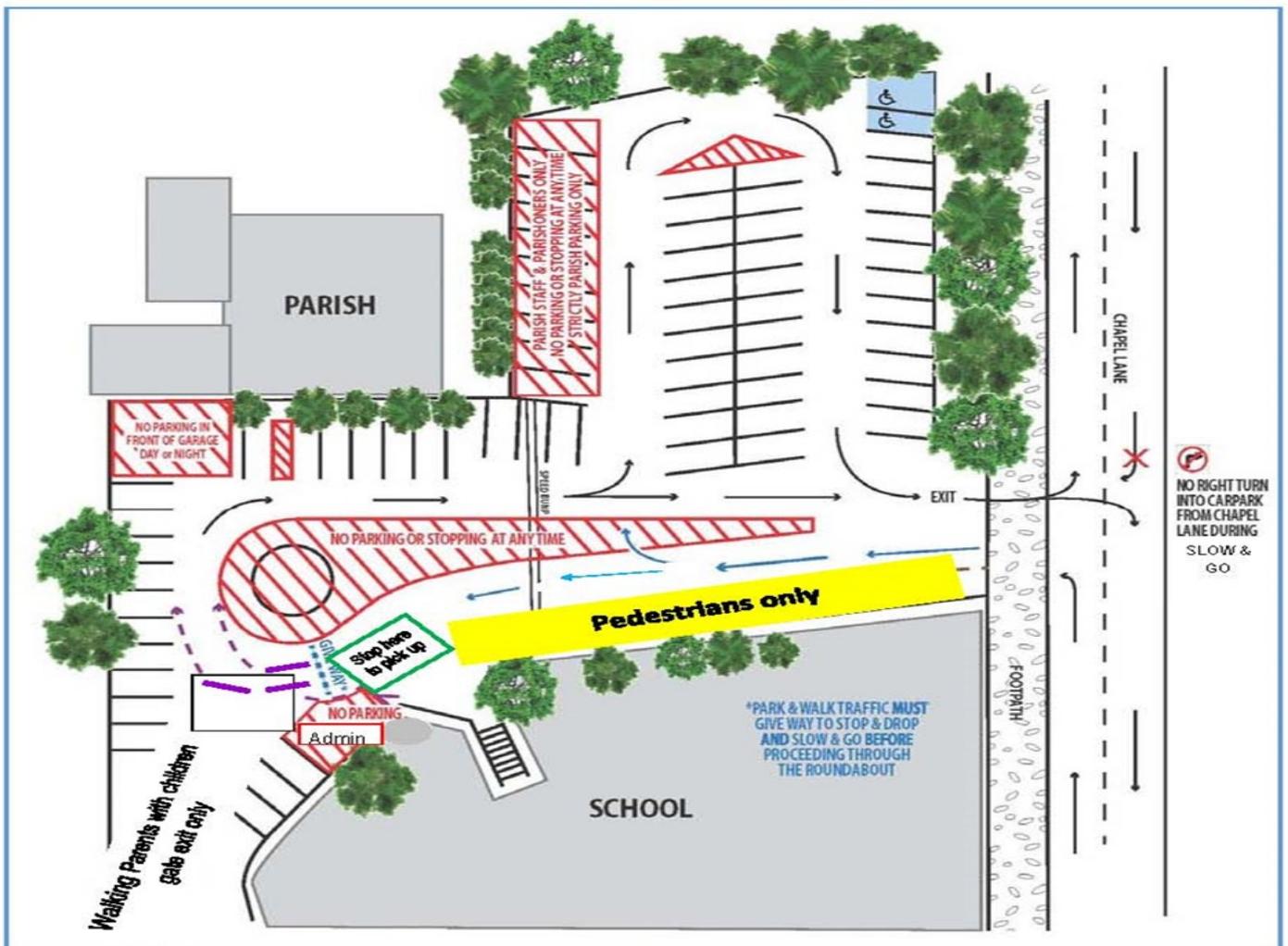
A 'Slow & Go' system operates in the afternoons for the safe and easy pickup of children. Parents are required to have a Slow & Go number. The Slow & Go number is provided by the school at the beginning of the school year. Please contact the school office if you would like a Slow & Go number.

'Slow & Go' commences at 3.20 pm and finishes at 3.40 pm. It is expected that all children will be collected by 3.40 pm. Any children not collected by this time will wait at the office for collection. A phone call is expected to explain the delay.

### Slow & Go Procedures

- The Slow & Go number needs to be displayed on the left side of the front window of the car. Children must know their family number.
- Slow speed and safe driving at all times when entering and leaving the school and parish car park. **Maximum speed limit 10 km/ph.**
- **Always be alert for pedestrians and other vehicles.** Please do not overtake any car in the car park or on the Slow & Go line.
- **Cars enter the car park turning left only from Chapel Lane after 3.20 pm.** Please queue down Chapel Lane alongside the school from 3.20 pm onwards. (There is no right turn from Chapel Lane into the car park at this time).
- Please **do not queue prior to 3.20 pm** as no standing zones are located along Chapel Lane.
- Please be mindful that bus bays outside Crestwood High School and St Michael's Primary must be kept clear for the school buses.
- **Please follow all staff directions at all times.**
- A teacher waits at the top of the car park and calls your child/ren's Slow & Go number over the microphone so that they can walk up to the collection point ready for pick up. Once your child is safely in your car, please drive slowly and safely around the roundabout and out of the car park onto Chapel Lane.
- Please be mindful that bus bays outside Crestwood High School and St Michael's Primary must be kept clear for the school business and that neighbours' driveways are to be left free for vehicle access.
- Please be courteous at all times to our staff, other families using the service, neighbours and other road users.

For the Slow & Go service to continue we need every parent to follow the procedure to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all involved. Thank you for your co-operation, support and understanding.



## 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.**



# St Michael's Primary School

3-5 Chapel Lane

BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153

Telephone: 9865 1600 Fax: 9865 1699

Email: [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Website: [www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au)



## Meet & Greet Meetings

### Week 4: 15 - 19 Feb 2021

3 February 2021

Dear Parents,

St Michael's is committed to providing the best possible education for every student. We believe that education works best when families, school and communities work together. Students' personal and social wellbeing is directly linked to self-esteem and motivation and thus essential to supporting effective teaching and learning. We are inviting you and your child to visit for a five minute chat with your child's teacher to inform them of any significant information that would help us personalise the learning for your child. This will involve you talking and the teacher listening. *Academic progress will be discussed next term at the Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences.*

What to do:

- Please complete the questionnaire that will be sent home and bring it along to the meeting.
- To make your meeting time go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) enter the event code (see details over the page)

**acbvg**

- Choose your child's teacher and a day/time that works for you during Week 4

We thank you for your support and look forward to being partners in your child's education.

Yours sincerely

Danuta Maka  
Principal



# St Michael's Primary School

3-5 Chapel Lane

BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2153

Telephone: 9865 1600 Fax: 9865 1699

Email: [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Website: [www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au)



## Book School Interviews Online

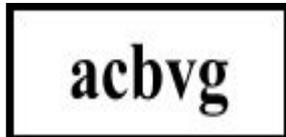
Dear Parents

The "Parent Meet and Greet Meetings" will be held for Years K to 6 in **Week 4 from Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February.**

You can now book meetings at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST.**

Go to HYPERLINK "http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au" [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS OPEN MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 9 AM AND CLOSE FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY 5 PM**

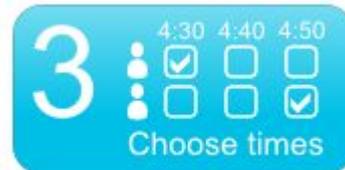


Go to

[www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter THIS school event code.

Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your meeting timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your meetings - until bookings close.

**BOOKINGS OPEN ON MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY SO THAT ALL FAMILIES MAY BOOK AT THE SAME TIME**

**Meetings are strictly 5 mins.** If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their meeting bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Parents wishing to change their meeting times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9865 1600.

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the HYPERLINK "http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au" [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and leave some feedback. Please remember to include the school's name and suburb.

## School Volunteers at St Michael's

In order to become a school volunteer at St Michael's Primary school, all volunteers must complete a [BCSC Undertaking Form and Training Module for Volunteers and Contractors](#).

The purpose of this module is to inform you of the standards of behaviour and other requirements that must be adhered to when delivering services to children and students.

The undertaking should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and the training module approximately 15 minutes.

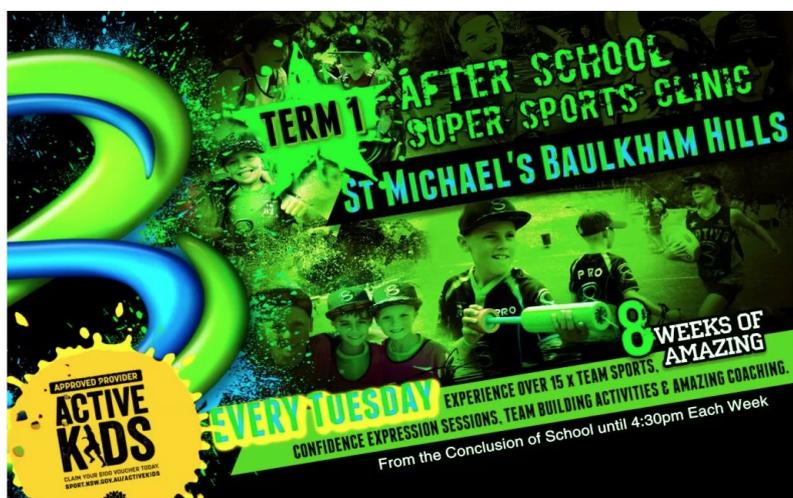
Once the form and training modules are submitted an automated email will be sent to you within 24 hours to confirm the status of your submission.

The undertaking form will expire within 2 years or when your WWCC expires (if applicable) whichever is sooner. At this time you will need to complete the Undertaking form and training module again. You will receive an automatic reminder email when this occurs.

Start your training to become a volunteer:

1. Go St Michael's website - <http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au>
2. Click on Enrol Now, go to Parent Involvement, click on Child Protection Course. You will then be directed to the Catholic Education Office – Diocese of Parramatta website, Scroll down and click on "Start Now", then click on "Begin Undertaking".
3. You will be given a "BSCS" number. Please email your name and the BSCS number to the school at [stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmichaelsbhills@parra.catholic.edu.au)

All Parent volunteers must complete the Child protection training module and Undertaking for Volunteers form online before they can assist in the school.



APPROVED PROVIDER  
**ACTIVE KADS**  
CLAIM YOUR SPOT TODAY FROM SPORTS AND RECREATION

**TERM 1 AFTER SCHOOL SUPER SPORTS CLINIC**  
**ST MICHAEL'S BAULKHAM HILLS**

**8 WEEKS OF AMAZING**  
**EVERY TUESDAY** EXPERIENCE OVER 15 x TEAM SPORTS, TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES & AMAZING COACHING.  
CONFIDENCE EXPRESSION SESSIONS. TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES & AMAZING COACHING.  
From the Conclusion of School until 4:30pm Each Week



**O'GRADY DRAMA**

**"Act, Create, Communicate"**

The difference is dramatic....  
Boost your child's creativity, confidence, communication skills & self-development through drama  
Students 5 - 17  
Enrolling for 2021

We don't just teach drama, we teach life

Classes held at Dural, Castle Hill, Quakers Hill, Bella Vista, Kellyville and Rouse Hill.

0438 788 080 | [sydneywest@ogradydrama.com.au](mailto:sydneywest@ogradydrama.com.au)  
[www.ogradydrama.com.au](http://www.ogradydrama.com.au)



SELF - DEFENCE • CONFIDENCE • DISCIPLINE • FOCUS



**SCHOOL SPECIAL**  
**\$49.95**

5 x Classes and a FREE uniform valued at over \$140.00!

**A+** MARTIAL ARTIST = **A+** STUDENT

(02) 9636 5767 | [info@teamprodigy.com.au](mailto:info@teamprodigy.com.au) | 57 Powers Road, Seven Hills

This Newsletter is available for viewing on our website: [www.stmichaelsbhills.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmichaelsbhills.parra.catholic.edu.au)