



# St Michael's Primary School

## Newsletter

Thursday 1 April 2021

Term 1 Week 10

Issue 5

3-5 Chapel Lane,  
Baulkham Hills

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### From the Principal

Dear Parents

#### Thank you

Thank you to all of our staff, parents and children for your support and hard work which all contributes to making St Michael's such a wonderful community.

#### Staff Development Day Monday 26 April (Week 2)

On this day, the teachers will be working on the new Religious Education Curriculum. Please make sure that you have made alternative arrangements for your child/children as there is no school for the children on Monday 26 April (Week 2).

#### 2022 Kindergarten Open Morning

Our remaining 2022 Kindergarten Open Mornings will take place on: **Tuesday 27 April: 9.30 am - 10.45 am**

If you know families who have children interested in coming to St Michael's in 2022, please invite them to come along to our Open Morning. Bookings essential. Please call 9865 1600 for further details or to book in for the Open Morning.

#### Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences

Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences will be held in Term 2 Week 3. An online booking form will be sent home next term.

#### Happy Easter!

There are a few days to go before we enter into the joys of "chocolate land!" Of course, one important thing to do before we loosen our belts on Easter Sunday, is to have a bit of a rethink about what actually happened on the first Easter day.

No doubt, if we had been alive in Jesus' time we, too, would have been astonished by the miracle of a resurrected corpse.

*"Jesus has not returned to a normal human life in this world like Lazarus and the others whom Jesus raised from the dead. He has entered upon a different life, he has entered the vast breadth of God himself, and it is from there that he reveals himself to his followers'."*

*"In Jesus' Resurrection, a new possibility of human existence is attained that affects everyone and that opens up a future, a new kind of future, for mankind."*

Now, what would you have been thinking if you were one of Jesus' followers on that first Easter day?

*"... they were simply overwhelmed by the reality, but after their initial hesitation and astonishment, they could no longer ignore that reality. It is truly he. He is alive; he has spoken to us; he has allowed us to touch him, even if he no longer belongs to the tangible in the normal way."*

Jesus' disciples were quite used to Jesus performing the unusual: restoring sight to the blind; restoring mobility to the crippled; curing lepers of their disease. But now they had to grapple with a new understanding of Jesus: "He was quite different, no mere resurrected corpse but one living anew and forever in the power of God. And yet, at the same time, no longer belonging to our world, he was truly present there, he himself. It was an utterly unique experience, which burst upon the normal boundaries of experience and yet for the disciples was quite beyond doubt."

So, when Easter Sunday does arrive we can join with the writer of Psalm 117 in saying, *"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."* We can rejoice and be glad, because Jesus, through his humanity, has given us the opportunity of true resurrection. However, as the resurrected Jesus said to the once doubting Thomas, *"You believe in me Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe."* (John 20:29) That's us.

Happy Easter—enjoy those chocolate eggs!

*All quotes from "Jesus of Nazareth" by Pope Benedict XVI*

*Wishing you peace and every blessing for a safe and happy holiday.*

*Danuta Maka*





# *St Michael's Primary School*

**3-5 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills**

**9865 1600**



## *2022 Kindergarten Open Morning*

**Tuesday 27 April 2021**

**9.30 am - 10.45 am**

### *Learning for a brighter future*

Our motto as a school community is 'Knowledge, Faith, and Love.' This represents the values of our vision and mission as a Catholic learning community.

All students have access to up-to-date resources, print and digital, including a range of mobile devices. This adds to the creation of engaging learning environments.

Over fifty-five well-qualified professional and support staff deliver quality teaching and learning programmes, meeting students' individual learning needs.

### *Open Morning Schedule*

- Principal's welcome and overview of the school
- Question time
- Tour of the school

### **BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

***For further information please call us on***

**9865 1600**

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



## Religious Education

### We Have The Most Wonderful Saviour!

This week we consider a key aspect of Jesus' identity, that of Saviour. Two thousand plus years ago, on what we now know as 'Palm Sunday', the streets were lined with people crying out 'Hosanna' (Lord, save us) as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people of the time lived under harsh Roman rulership, not free to live as they chose, or say what they liked. They longed for deliverance, freedom, and a new kingdom. They longed for a saviour. Jesus was the hero for the people. They cheered, bowed, and spread their coats and palm branches before him as he passed by.

As we imagine the crowd, the unified cry of 'Hosanna', we try to imagine their need of desperation and simultaneous hope. It was the realisation of the people that they could not save themselves, and that they needed to connect to security and cry out to their saviour. In its purest form, it is worship, coming to the end of oneself, and seeking God to intervene. Certainly, it looked and sounded like worship.

'Hosanna! He who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed One! ...Hosanna in the highest heaven!' (Mark 11: 9-10). The cry of Hosanna is just as relevant today in our world, and for us, as it was then. Jesus' power and authority are just as strong and as relevant as it was then.

During Holy Week you are invited to remember, 'Hosanna'. 'It was indeed a very Good Friday when the King of Kings gave his life for our salvation. What a magnificent God. What an outrageous gift.

Hosanna! Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Happy Easter everyone!

**Mrs Jennie Meniconi**  
**Acting Religious Education Coordinator**

### *St Michael's Parish*

#### *Easter Mass Times*

#### **1 April - Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)**

7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### **2 April - Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)**

10.00 am Stations of the Cross (Followed by Confession)

3.00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Followed by Confession)

#### **3 April - Holy Saturday**

NO MORNING MASSES

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7.00 pm The Easter Vigil

#### **4 April - Sunday of the Resurrection**

8.00 am, 10.00 am & 6.00 pm Masses of the Resurrection.

#### *Individual Reconciliation*

Good Friday after Stations of the Cross

Passion Easter Saturday 9.00-10.30 am

NO EVENING CONFESSIONS

## Social Skill Tips for Parents

### Term 2 Week 1: The Network Hand

- 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.

### Week 2: Mantra 3—Dobbing verses telling.

- Are you dobbing or telling?
- 'Dobbing', is when you are trying to get someone into trouble.
- '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.

### Week 3: 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.

## Prayers

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

We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.



## Harmony Week at St Michael's

3MO—Mrs Orehek

The recent rain may have destroyed our beautiful Harmony Week display outside the office, but it didn't dampen our spirit.

Students at St Michael's enthusiastically tied an orange ribbon around another's wrist as a sign of our commitment to celebrate our diverse community, as well as to say "no" to bullying. From all at St Michael's, we hope you enjoyed Happy Harmony Day.





## Calendar Dates

**Easter—Friday 2 April to Monday 4 April**

**School Holidays Friday 2 April to Sunday 18 April**

### TERM 2 WEEK 1

**Mon 19 Apr** Students and Staff return for Term 2

**Wed 21 Apr** Diocesan Rugby Union Trials

**Fri 23 Apr** ANZAC Day Liturgy  
Mackillop Football Trials

### WEEK 2

**Mon 26 Apr** Staff Development Day—Pupil free

**Tue 27 Apr** 2022 Kindergarten Open Morning

**Wed 28 Apr** Diocesan Softball Trials

**Thu 29 Apr** School Photos

**Fri 30 Apr** P&F Mother's Day Gifts Handed out  
Mackillop Winter Trials

### WEEK 3

#### Parent / Teacher / Student Conferences

**Mon 2 May** Winter Uniform

**Tue 4 May** Diocesan Cross Country

**Wed 5 May** P&F Meeting

**Fri 7 May** Diocesan Cricket

## 2021 School Terms

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

**Staff Development Day: Monday 26 April**

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

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

*\*Students finish on Wednesday, 15 December*

**Staff Development Days:**

*Thursday, 16 December and Friday, 17 December*

## Staff Development Day

**Monday 26 April**

Our staff will be undertaking a Religious Education professional learning day on Monday 26 April (Term 2 Week 2).

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

## Wellbeing

Our focus during these past two weeks has been to:

**Use Kind Words and Show Manners**

Please continue to support our Wellbeing Policy by talking with your children about each two week Focus.

Ask your child if they have received a "Paws Award" and why they received it.

As part of our Wellbeing Programme at St Michael's a clip has been produced to highlight the positive behaviour practices that are used at the school. It has been pleasing to see the way the children have embraced this programme. To view the clip, please click on the link below:

[Wellbeing at St Michael's](#)

## Changeover into Winter Uniform

**Monday 10 May 2021**

Children may continue to wear their summer uniform for the first three weeks of Term 2 but if the weather turns cold before Monday 10 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 10 May.

From Monday 10 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.

Lost property is placed in a tub outside the Mercy Room, near the canteen.

## Orders for Winter Uniform

All winter uniforms are now available on the QKR app.

Please place your orders now to make sure you avoid disappointment and your child has a uniform for Term 2. (Winter uniforms commence on Monday 10 May.)

The first delivery after the holidays will be Tuesday 20 April.

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

All exchanges need to be emailed to  
[elle@ozfashions.com.au](mailto:elle@ozfashions.com.au)

Thank you and kind regards. Elle, OzFashions Uniforms

## HARMONY WEEK

## @ Your Canteen

### Our Recipe For Harmony

- Add a heap of healthy and delicious meals
- Mix in a variety of different cultures, tastes and traditions
- Taste and Experience a diverse range of foods from all round the world. They are all amazing

No matter our background, meal times are a fantastic inclusive opportunity to bring us together as family, friends and community while we share our stories and experiences

Let's all celebrate as one, our dedication to continuing to respect everyone

Did you see us at the canteen celebrating Harmony Week...?



ONEWORLD BELONGS  
[www.harmony.gov.au](http://www.harmony.gov.au)



## Sport—Mr Steve Kovelis

### Hills Zone Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to William Ison, Cameron Mostyn, Jackson Ward and Oliver Moogan who attended the MacKillop Swimming Carnival. It was a fantastic achievement to be with some of the top Catholic School swimmers in the state.

### Parramatta Diocesan MacKillop Trials

Congratulations to Mitchell Salonga and Caleb Parslow, who represented St Michael's at the Parramatta Diocesan Trials recently in Wagga Wagga.

*Congratulations!*



## ANZAC Service

On Friday 23 April as a school we will hold a service to commemorate ANZAC day.

We are asking any parents who are either active or retired members of the Defence Force if they are available and willing to join us for the service at 9.15 am on Friday 23 April.

If you are available please [email](#) the school office.



## Facebook



We are very excited to announce that our Facebook Page is now live !



Please Like and follow our Page for updates, information, photos and more.

Link for St Michael's Baulkham Hills: [www.facebook.com/StMichaelsBHills](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsBHills)

For searching within Facebook: @StMichaelsBHills

If for any reason you would prefer your child's photograph not to be on our Facebook Page, please contact the office for assistance in completing a consent form.

We would like our Page to be a positive communication tool between parents and the school. If you have any concerns, please contact the school directly through the school office.

We're looking forward to sharing our learning journey with you.



# Vinnies

## good works

### Flood appeal

A huge thank you to all our wonderful families for their generous donations!

Our community raised \$625.35 to support those affected by the recent floods in their time of need.



# PROJECT COMPASSION BE MORE

Through the placing of money into Project Compassion boxes and the wonderful attendance at our Movie Lunches **our intentional faith community** has raised \$1430.65 to support Caritas Australia's projects overseas. This money will be used to help those who are impoverished like Olivia to 'be more'. This wonderful message has also helped our students to think about how they can 'be more' not just for those in other countries but for everyone they interact with.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Mini Vinnies team  
(Miss Anderson, Miss Flannery and Mrs Orehek)*

## Olivia's Story

This year Mini Vinnies have been learning about how we can BE MORE through the Project Compassion campaign. Project Compassion help people like Olivia here to BE MORE for themselves and their communities everyday.



Olivia is one of the people that needed help from Caritas Australia. As a child, Olivia's parents could not send her to school. So, when she was an adult, she was embarrassed that she could not read or write. She wanted to BE MORE for herself and her family.

When she started literacy school, she attended with other mothers. They really wanted to go but they were too embarrassed to admit it, because they were studying with their children. Then she decided to run a school at her home teaching everyone who had no education as a child. Soon after all of her neighbours were well educated. This was through the help of Caritas Australia and because Olivia chose to BE MORE.

So, with a bit of help, we can BE MORE. Please donate today with your spare change at the canteen or in the box on your prayer table.



A small sacrifice can make a BIG difference.

*Researched and written by Violet and Akshara*

**Did you know**  
1 in 6 primary students are not attending school regularly. Schools are here to help.  
If you are having attendance issues with your child please contact us so we can support you to address them.

every learner  
every day





***An Easter 2021 Message from  
Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv,  
Bishop of Parramatta***

*"Go and tell my brothers and I am ascending to my Father and your Father,  
to my God and your God".*



*Christ's Appearance to Mary Magdalene after the Resurrection by Alexander Andreyevich Ivanov. Source: Wikimedia Commons.*

My dear friends,

At Easter, we hear these words of the Risen Lord who empowers Mary of Magdala to overcome fear and to proclaim the Good News to others. She is known as an apostle to the apostles.

But it was not just Mary of Magdala who had a pivotal role in the early days of Christianity. Throughout salvation history, women disciples have played a critical part in forging a new future out of the hopeless present. Puah and Shiprah acted as catalysts for the exodus by their civil disobedience.

Esther boldly intervened for her people at the foreign court. Ruth broke new ground of inclusion as a consummate outsider. Mary MacKillop, of course, started a new and hitherto unheralded group of women who took the Good News to the edges of Australian society.

If the Church is to be faithful to the biblical narrative and responsive to the living presence of God, it must reclaim a discipleship of equals and empower men and women disciples to share their gifts for human flourishing and the growth of the Kingdom.

At the heart of the Easter message is the summons to a new future, framed with hope and possibility, in the midst of entrenched hopelessness. As with Mary and the disciples, who were emboldened to move from the shadows of crucifixion into the light and life of the Risen Christ, the Church must live this message.

It must embody the alternative relational paradigm that is rooted in the radical inclusivity, mutuality, compassion and the powerlessness of Jesus. We cannot have a better future if we persist in the age-old but dying paradigm of triumphalism, elitism, male supremacy and clerical dominance.

The Gospel speaks of the bewilderment and disillusionment of the disciples as they were confronted with an empty tomb. Perhaps, their experience was not unique. Many also go searching for Jesus in the Church and instead find it empty and void of what they thirst for.

It is incumbent on us especially as leaders to make the Church into a place where people can meet and experience the Risen Lord. We must not remain a closed system. For we encounter the living Christ beyond the known boundaries of our worldview. We meet him as a community of seekers of truth, meaning and ultimate concern. More importantly, we witness to him in our acts of solidarity, communion and service to the common good.

This transition time calls us to grieve before we can emerge cleansed, renewed and transformed. Mary wept at the sight of the empty tomb. We too must grieve for those whose experience has been one of exclusion, instead of an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness, and solidarity.

Pope Francis recently called on the Christian communities to sow seeds of love instead of issuing theoretical condemnations.

In the spirit of conversion, the Church here in Parramatta has embarked upon a Review of Governance with a view to improving governance practices and implementing key principles for a more synodal and "bottom-up" ecclesiology. The time has come for us not only to admit the need for change but to discern together as to what the process and the agenda for change should look like going forward.

Brothers and sisters,

In the face of painful transition, let us be empowered by the presence of the Risen Lord, calling us beyond the fear of the unknown. The paschal rhythm summons us to a discipleship of humility, weakness and vulnerability, of dying and rising in Christ.

We must die to the old ways of being Church abandoning the old paradigm of a fortress Church, prone to exclusivity and elitism. Instead, we learn to rise to Christlike ways of humility, inclusiveness, compassion.

May we be strengthened to walk the journey of faith and we may be leaven to the Kingdom through our active discipleship, witness, and engagement in the world. Let us have the courage of Mary and be truly Easter men and women bringing to life the Good News in our Church and our world.

Have a blessed Easter.

**Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv  
Bishop of Parramatta**

[An audio of the Bishop's message can be viewed by clicking on this link](#)

## Year 4AF—Mrs Amanda Feil

Year 4 has recently been doing 'Array Busting' for math warm-ups.

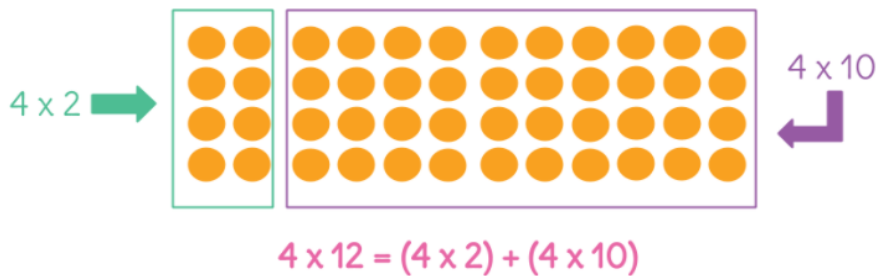
So ... what exactly is array busting?

Firstly, arrays are a visual tool that helps to build an understanding of multiplication and division. Breaking apart arrays is an effective strategy for students who are learning multiplication as it helps to model distributive property. For example: students usually learn their twos and their fives sooner than the larger times tables, so when faced with a problem like  $6 \times 7$ , students can instead look at the 7 as a  $(5+2)$  instead. Like this:  $6 \times (5+2)$  OR  $(6 \times 2) + (6 \times 5) = 12 + 30 = 42$ .

Students begin by rolling two dice, (a 6 sided and a 12+ sided), to create their array. For example, if a 4 and a 12 is rolled the student might draw an array that looks like this:



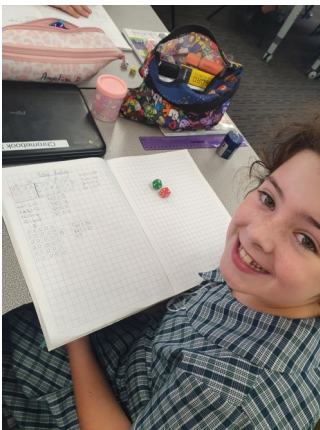
When 'busting' this array, a student might split it into 2 (or more) smaller arrays as shown below. Then will then come up with multiple number sentences to express the array.



Students will then come up with as many ways to 'bust' the array as possible.

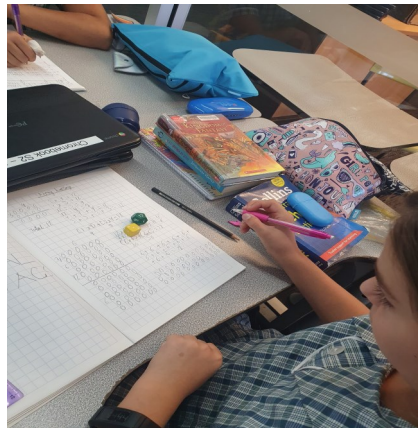
E.g.  $4 \times 12 = (4 \times 4) + (4 \times 4) + (4 \times 4)$ , etc.

Look at the fabulous examples below of 4AF students busting their own arrays! (Pictures are captioned by 4AF students Koby and Olivia).



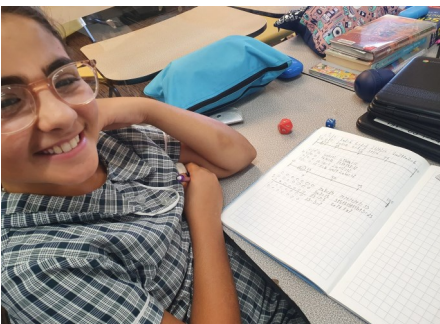
Niamh is array busting neatly, using a lot of solutions. Her solutions include both multiplication and division.

Ivy is busting her  $17 \times 6$  and  $3 \times 4$  arrays better than Albert Einstein! She is doing it neatly and clearly so that she demonstrates her understanding clearly.

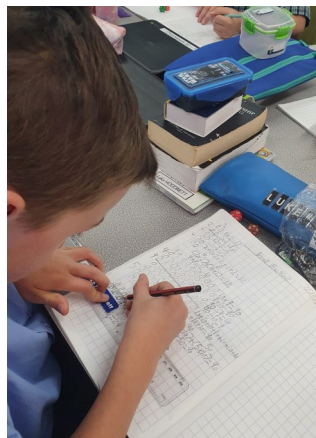


Olivia is doing her array busting very neatly and is finding a lot of different solutions. She is trying to bust her array using multiple and accurate solutions which involve both multiplication and division.

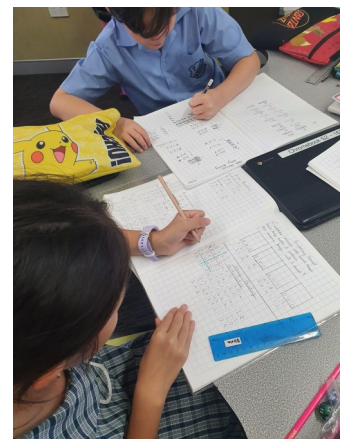
Michael can be seen here too, working hard on his own arrays!



Scarlett is working very hard in her array busting! The arrays she is busting are  $5 \times 7$  and  $3 \times 2$ . She is showing many solutions and answers for her working out.



Luke is solving his arrays like a champion, using a ruler, writing clearly and using multiple solutions! The arrays he was solving were  $9 \times 10$  and  $6 \times 2$ .







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## Virtual Mother's Day Stall

This year, Mother's Day gifts are simply a click away.....literally!  
Gifts are NOW available for purchase online through **Shopify**

**Only \$8 per gift**

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**Third Prize** – Family Recipe book and matching spatula

Please use the link below to place your orders.

<https://st-michaels-baulkham-hills-p-f-virtual-mothers-day-stall.myshopify.com/>

Delivery will be through your child's class teacher.

At checkout, please add your **child's full name and class** under "Company name".

For any queries, please email the P&F Committee at [pandfstmichaels@gmail.com](mailto:pandfstmichaels@gmail.com)

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