COMING EVENTS
Fri 10th February
Kinder rest day.
Tue 14th February
Parent Information Evening, 6pm
Thu 16th February
Sport for Women Dance Yrs 3-6, 9am
Fri 17th February
Kinder rest day.
Whole School Prayer Time 4M, 12.30pm

COMING UP
Wed 22nd February
Ash Wednesday Mass 10am
Fri 24th February
Kinder rest day.

Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

To start this school year, we have chosen the following reading as a focus for our direction. Out of this passage we have taken ‘PUT ON LOVE’ as our theme.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians 3:12-17
Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect harmony. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The connection between love and harmony in this reading provides a firm basis for our actions this year. While following our motto to ‘Live in Harmony’, we will ‘put on love’ in many ways. It provides a natural pathway to our School Wide Positive Behaviour program as we promote positive behaviour to be safe; be respectful; be responsible; and be a learner.

HARMONY HAPPENINGS

INFORMATION NIGHT – Tuesday 14 February, 6 – 7pm
I invite you all to attend this short information session to start the year. This evening will provide an opportunity for everyone to strengthen the partnership with school! Come along and have a cuppa in the hall, while you receive some general school information relating to 2012. You will then be taken on a short guided tour of the classroom by your child, where you can also meet the teacher. The teacher will provide you with an important information sheet outlining the focus areas for learning and any other events that will be happening in your child’s class this term.

FAMILY DETAILS FORM
Included with this newsletter (only hardcopy version for the year!) is a family details form which provides essential information that is required by the CEO to be accurate in our system. This information is for the safety and care of your children while at school. Please update your details and return to the school office by Friday 17 February. It is essential that any changes throughout the year are also notified to the front office. The Medical alert form must also be completed to ensure we have current health information where required.

IMPORTANT DETAILS FROM US!
• SPORTS DAYS are Tuesdays and Thursdays for ALL students. Apologies to those who did not receive this information.
• Helpers in the school are very welcome and very important to us. A legal requirement is that you complete a declaration regarding working with children before assisting a class, a carnival or an excursion etc. These forms are available at the front office.

POSITION VACANT – Janitor / Maintenance
A part-time position is available at St Michael’s for a Janitor / Maintenance assistant to work for 3 hours on two mornings a week. Selection criteria and a list of the main duties/ responsibilities can be found on the school website www.stmichaelsps.act.edu.au or by contacting the front office of the school on 6241 4022.

NEWSLETTERS 2012 – e-Copy!
In response to the results of a survey of parents completed at the end of 2010, a decision was made by School Council to have the school newsletter and other printed material available on the school website rather than in hardcopy. This was investigated and implemented in an effort to conserve paper and protect our environment. In order to continue this practice, the school office requires a current email address for all families.

We are aware this change may not suit all family situations, so should you still require a hardcopy of the newsletter, please send in a written note to Lisa Monro at the school office. We appreciate your cooperation in making this small effort to preserve our planet for our children’s future.

Yours in partnership
Judy

Notes included with this newsletter:
Family Details form
Parking reminder
Medical alert form
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST MICHAEL’S
Welcome back to school and to a new and exciting time for us all. As a community we aim to be compassionate, gentle, and patient, to bear with each other and to forgive — to PUT ON LOVE as we focus upon binding everything together in perfect Harmony (Colossians 3:12-14).

OPENING MASS & LEADERS DEDICATION
Our Opening Mass today was a fitting way to begin the year. God’s blessing was bestowed by Father Peter on our whole school community. The special blessing of our school leaders and their leadership badges for 2012, was a fitting start to their very important role. The whole of the Year Six cohort will be our student leaders for 2012. They will operate as members of their colour House groups across four portfolios which will rotate each term—Harmony, Communication, Internal Environment, External Environment.

We welcomed some members of the parent community to this celebration and hope to see many of you on these occasions.

DEAR GOD, THANKS FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL LIFE
AND FORGIVE US IF WE DO NOT LOVE IT ENOUGH.

NUT FREE SCHOOL
There are students in our school with life threatening allergies to nuts. Even a trace amount from nut products or food that has come in contact with nut source (cross contamination) can result in a life threatening anaphylactic reaction. The most serious reaction being respiratory difficulties, blockage of the airways, which if not medicated immediately, can be fatal. These children may not be in the same class as your child however contact on the playground could result in an incident occurring.

To provide a minimised allergen environment, we need the support and cooperation of you, the parents/guardians and the school community. Students are asked to bring lunches and snacks free of nuts as well as products that have the “may contain nuts” warning on them. Please read labels before sending food to school. Keep in mind not all packaging is clearly labelled with the warning. Truly, this is a life saving measure. If you have caregivers who provide your child with lunches or snacks we encourage you to share this information with them.

When bringing a treat to celebrate a special event, we encourage that care is taken to ensure nut free items are sent to school so all students can participate in the celebration. Please check the labels and be sure to send the package with it. Please be aware that bakery items from supermarkets or bakeries are not safe as they may have come in contact with nuts while being made. Home baked items may be inadvertently unsafe due to cross-contamination in the kitchen. (Example: A knife used for peanut butter may also have been dipped in the butter dish and left traces of peanut butter. Almonds have been eaten and hands not washed before baking or handling baked goods.)

Your support in refraining from sending peanut butter and nut products to school in lunches and snacks is sought. This includes Nutella. The staff will talk to the children and it is most important that you also impress upon your child the importance of following this request. We are a family and some of our members need our support to ensure their continuing good health. I know we can all work together to achieve this.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2012
Advance notice for our Sacramental dates for 2012:
Eucharist - Sunday 3rd June
Confirmation - Sunday 12th August
Reconciliation - Thursday 8th November

Details will be sent home to the specific classes as the preparation begins. All families are always welcome to attend these community celebrations.

FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN 2012
SCHOOL & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Welcome back to another exciting and colourful year at St Michael’s.

ST MICHAEL’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Notes outlining the details for the Swimming Carnival will be sent home next week. This year it will be held at Big Splash on Friday, 9th March, 2012. Attached to the note will be a Parent Helper slip, Consent Form and Event Nomination Form. Children eight years and older need to nominate the events they wish to compete in. Please talk with your child about the events and help them decide as no changes / late entries will be accepted after the closing date, which is Monday, 27th February. Please Note that the students may only swim in either the 25metre or 50metre for each stroke (not both). Non-swimmers will participate in novelty events. The slides will not be in use on the day. Children need to wear hats, protective clothing and sunscreen. They will need to bring their lunch and plenty to drink. The kiosk will be open during morning tea and lunch.

We would appreciate the help of parents who are able to act as timekeepers and assist with novelty events. We are looking for about 8 helpers. We are also in need of a parent to coordinate the morning tea as the parent which has coordinated it in the past has left the school. We also require assistance with providing morning tea. If you are able to provide morning tea for our helpers please drop your food to the School Hall prior to 8:30am. Finally, please be aware that any parent that is not a helper on the day is asked to pay a $5.00 entry fee as well as any siblings attending.

FRUIT BREAK

At St Michael’s we encourage all children to bring in appropriate fruit to eat at 10:00am to help sustain them throughout the day and also to model healthy eating habits. The younger children are encouraged to have fruit that is easy to eat. If the fruit needs cutting please do it at home and send it to school in a container.

VERTI-COOL CHALLENGE

The Camp Quality Verti-COOL Challenge is on again. This event is happening on Friday 24th February 2012. Information regarding this event is up around the school and at the front office. We are encouraging as many children over the age of 8 years to participate. All money raised is for Camp Quality. Please look at http://www.mycampquality.org.au/verticool for more information and how you can register. We are happy to assist interested students with registration at school.

Till next edition, stay healthy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!


We hope you had a great day!

Special wishes to those children that celebrated their birthday this week: Alyssa 4M, Anna 1/2H, Nathaniel 1/2H and Mea 5P.

We hope you have a great day!

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Put all your rubbish in a bin.
Separate your rubbish at home and at school.

Use the right bin!
ST MICHAEL’S PARISH

Contact Details and Mass Times
Parish Priest: Father Peter HA, N. Doai
Address: Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen, ACT 2617
Telephone: (02) 6241 3364
Fax: (02) 6241 0747
Email: stm.kaleen@cg.catholic.org.au
Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday: 6.00pm, Sunday: 9.00am and 5.30pm

Wk 2
Wednesday 15/2
Jad Matijevic

Thursday 16/2
Leanne Post

Friday 17/2
Lissa O’Gorman, Maddy Sealey
Kathy Bartelj, Katrina Mihajlovic

Wk 3
Wednesday 22/2
Juliet Zeiler

Thursday 23/2
Caitlyn Frost

Friday 24/2
Di Nagel, Amanda Barry
Melissa Scarlett, Maria Cavalli

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RETURNING TO WORK? AFTERNOON MEETINGS?
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
contact www.canberra.ymca.org.au

For more information Ph: 6230 0165, or
Email: oshc.admin@ymca.org.au

St Michael’s ASC is the highest accredited YMCA programme in the ACT.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
contact www.canberra.ymca.org.au

PIANO LESSONS AT ST MICHAEL’S
Is your child interested in learning to play the Piano?
If so, Mrs Mary-Liz Patridge as kindly offered
to continue with Piano lessons at St Michael’s.
Please contact Mary-Liz on 0413 425 753

GUITAR LESSONS AT ST MICHAEL’S
We currently have private guitar lessons held during
class time at St Michael’s. If your child is
interested in learning to play the guitar or
hone in on those skills already learned,
please contact Sam Strano on
0408 196 855.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL DOORKNOCK APPEAL
St Vincent Conference is looking for collectors to assistant
in its annual doorknock during February in the Kaleen,
Giralang & North Lyneham suburbs. The purpose of the
doorknock is to raise funds to assist those in need in our
community. If you can spare a couple of hours and would
like to assist please contact Ted Smith on 6241 7432 or
0411 106 295.

SPEECH & DRAMA
There is a group class held every Tuesday lunchtime at the
School for those students interested in Speech and Drama.
For further details please contact Elizabeth McIntosh on
6255 9054 (please leave a message if not available)

CHESS
Chess lessons will held every Thursday in the
library with Mr Jarvis. Students are invited to
come along and have a go. Any students
interested in competitions will be invited to participate in
Chess competitions held at other schools around the ACT.

SCHOOL BANKING
Once again Mrs Griffiths has kindly volunteered to run the
school banking for 2012. Banking days will be on
Wednesdays. More information will be forwarded to the
students next week.

CANTENE - Call Maria Cavalli on 6241 5780 or e-mail cavalli@grapevine.com.au to join the canteen team.

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CHESS
Cassie is back! Dancecore will commence
Thursday 16th February. Classes will run
every Thursday lunchtime. Students will
learn the latest dance moves to funky
music and will get the opportunity to learn
dance and performance techniques. There
will also be performance opportunities for
students to show off the skills they have learnt
throughout the term.

Please pick up a Registration Form from the front office, numbers are limited, so please register early to ensure your enrolment.

Any queries please call Cassie on 0417 442 750

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ST MICHAEL’S PRIMARY SCHOOL, KALEEN

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