Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends,

THE EASTER SEASON

In the last week of Term One the children reverently enacted the journey Jesus travelled to the cross through their enactment of the Stations of the Cross. At the last station, Jesus was taken down from the cross and laid in a borrowed tomb. But that is not the end of the story of Easter. If we had left Jesus buried in the tomb we would have missed the message of Easter ~ Jesus rose from the dead. On Tuesday in our special liturgy, the students celebrated that Christ is risen! Alleluia! Eastertime is about new life. We rejoice in the new life of Jesus. The season of Easter is about light overcoming darkness. As believers in the resurrection, it is our mission to be the ‘Light for the World’ too. It is too easy to be messengers of gloom and doom, but we are challenged to bring the light of Christ to all we meet. Please pray that our school community is a light to all and that we are a message of hope to all.

CHINA STUDY TOUR

For the first week of the holiday break, I was fortunate enough to be part of a University of Canberra study tour to the cities of Shanghai and Hangzhou in China. The tour provided the opportunity to visit Pre-school, Primary and Middle School settings in both locations. The schools we visited were the ‘model’ schools; producing high level academic results. We witnessed class sizes of sometimes 40+ students and a school day that went from 8.30am to 4.30pm with homework to follow. However there was a common thread in a number of these schools, which was a new approach in their education system; and that was an emphasis on the happiness of the children along with the academic success. I felt very at home in one particular school who had peace and harmony as their motto, and the Principal created a calligraphy artwork of the word ‘Harmony’ in the Chinese script for me to bring home for our school. It will be framed and displayed soon. I look forward to sharing the experience and my photos with the students and teachers over the coming weeks.

ENROLMENT FOR 2015

Next week we begin three weeks (5 – 23 May) of the official enrolment period for 2015. We are extremely grateful to all the families who assisted in promoting St Michael’s by delivering the flyers at the end of last term. If you still have your flyers, we will be very grateful if you can deliver them this weekend.

We will be holding two open days, on the 6th and 14th of May, where parents can visit the school and get a sense of what St Michael’s has to offer their child. I encourage all current families who have siblings who will turn 5 years by the 30 April 2015, to collect an application form from the front office and return it to the school before the end of the enrolment period to ensure a place for their child. Of course we would also love to give your child a special tour of the school.

SCHOOL TIMES

I would like to remind families that the school times are from 8.50am to 3pm each school day. It is very important for both the individual child and the teacher and class that students are on time in the mornings and that they are able to complete the day’s activities. Firstly it fosters an understanding of the need to be on time - for school, work, parties, appointments etc - which will be a valued trait when they are adults. Secondly and just as importantly, our morning Literacy Block (2 hours) actually includes the morning gathering, where they are required to listen and participate in the different aspects of this event. Often very important information for the day or reminders are given to the children, as we endeavour to develop their independence and foster responsibility for themselves. Children arriving late often detract from our prayer time and also distract others in their class.

Missing half an hour of learning/teaching time each day in a term equates to 5 full days away from school! I ask that you make every effort to be on time or even a bit early, and also that children are not collected early from class unnecessarily.

Thought for the Week

“Good intentions are no substitute for action; failure usually follows the path of least resistance.”

Yours in partnership

Judy
Harmony Happenings

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WHOLE SCHOOL PRAYER TIME
This term our Whole School Prayer Time will be presented by our junior classes. Year 1S will lead our first one next Friday 9th May at 12.50pm. You are all welcome to join us.

Jesus is Alive! This week we came together to celebrate the hope of new life which Easter has given us once again. Thank you to the classes who led us with such enthusiasm.

As we conclude the Easter season Project Compassion boxes are now due in. Please remember to return them (hopefully full) to the school within the next week or two. Thank you in anticipation.

IMPORTANT DATE
Sacrament of Confirmation—20th August @ 6pm

MOTHERS’ DAY MASS
Next week at the Thursday Parish Mass, the whole school will offer up our prayers and songs for our mothers as we dedicate the Mass to our mothers prior to Mothers’ Day weekend. Please take the time to come along and share in this lovely Mass if you have the chance. We welcome all Mothers, Grandmothers and Mother figures along with anyone else who would like to join us.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORNER

TWILIGHT FAIR MEETING
This year our Twilight Fair is being held on Friday October 24th. Everyone is invited to attend a meeting next Wednesday, 7th May commencing at 3.30pm in the library. Please come along if you are interested in looking after a stall or are willing to assist on a stall. Nicole Dwight and Stephanie Alves are once again coordinating the fair. We hope to see many of you at the meeting.

BUNNINGS BBQ
Volunteers are needed to assist with the Bunnings BBQ to be held on Saturday 24th May at Belconnen. If you can assist on the day, please see the list located at the Front Office to put your name against a time slot. For further information please contact Stuart Duncan on stuart.duncan@gmail.com.

ST MICHAEL’S MATHS MASTERMINDS

Please watch this space in coming weeks for the details of our weekly maths challenge. We are going to provide you with some brain bending mathematical problems for you to solve as a family. More information regarding rules, information and prizes will be included in next weeks newsletter along with the first maths challenge.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrated their birthdays in the holidays:

Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Coomara 1F, Ana 2W, Brodie & Cooper KD, Kaitlyn 5/6C and Samara KD

We hope you have a great day!

HARMONY AWARDS
Congratulations to the following children who received Harmony Awards last Term. Well done to everyone!

KD: Samara, Leo & Quentin
1F: Brooke, Liam & Alisa
1S: Chelsea, Brooke & Hamish
2T: Aaron, Ivan & Sofia
2W: Daniela, Jazmine, Hamish & Bailey
3/4B: Zoe, Cassie, Grace & Joe
3/4H: Andreas, Maja & Emily
5/6C: Lachlan, Vanessa & Alannah
5/6M: Cooper, Ellie & Will
5/6P: Clement, Harry, Monique & Hannah
BELCONNEN REGION CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
If your child has been selected to run in the Belconnen Region Cross Country Carnival they will receive a note about this in the next couple of days. This event is being held on Monday 12th May.

AFL CLINICS
For the first five weeks of this term all students at St Michael’s will be participating in AFL Clinics on Thursdays. This is a free clinic and the students enjoyed their first session today. A huge thank you to Miss Tait for organising these clinics.

BELCONNEN REGION GIRLS SOCCER TEAM
Congratulations to Elyse and Olivia who have been selected to represent the Belconnen Region in the Under 12s Girls Soccer Team. Way to go girls!

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY
Walk Safely to School Day is being held on Friday 23rd May (a great warm up to our Walkathon which is being held on the same day). We would love to see lots of St Michael’s students hitting the pavements and making their way to school by foot (a bike or scooter would be awesome as well) on this day. If you live out of town, perhaps you could walk just the last few blocks?

DANCECORE
Cassie will now start the Dancecore classes in Term 3, the classes will run one day a week during recess or lunch, more information will be available at the end of this term.

THE WINTER TERMS
It was wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week for Term Two. I thank the families for your efforts in sending the children back so well presented in their winter uniforms. I acknowledge those still relishing the lingering warm days, but ask that we are all in full winter uniform by the end of week two (or before—check the weather forecast). The uniform list is available on the website for your information. A special reminder that hair accessories should be plain navy blue or black; the only armbands to be worn are those achieved through the ‘gotcha’ system; earrings should be plain studs or small sleepers (no hanging decorations) and all shoes should comply with the uniform requirements listed on the website. Thank you.

PARKING REMINDER
Parents/carers are reminded that it is not permitted to drive across the front of the school to drop children off in the morning. Access is through the church carpark entrance (near the blue school sign) and onto the basketball courts. Please park with consideration for others and escort your children at least as far as the front office door. If you wish to drop your child and not leave your car, please do this on Tyrrell Circuit beside the oval so your child can walk across the oval to the rear gates which are open from 8.20 each morning. Please put the children’s safety before convenience.

MERICI COLLEGE OPEN DAY:
Wednesday 7 May 2014
9.30am to 7.00pm
Come and see the College in action!

INFORMATION EVENING:
For Year 7 Students for 2015
Tuesday 13 May 2014
6.00pm-7.15pm
For Year 11 Students for 2015
Thursday 15 May 2014
6.00pm-7.15pm
Careers Expo from 4.00pm

DARAMALAN COLLEGE
Enrolment Dates 2015
Open Evening:
Thursday 3rd April 2014
Tours 5.00–6.00pm
followed by Year 7
Information Session
from 7.00-8.00pm
Contact the
Registrar on
62456348 to find
further information about
enrolments on our website
ww.daramalan.act.edu.au

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE—ENROLMENT 2015
Our Year 7 2015 Enrolment Information Evening is
Monday 12th May commencing at 5.30pm with tours of
the College and followed at 7pm with a formal
information session. We are also having an Open Day on
Friday 16th May where families are free to come for a
tour of the College between 9am – 2.30pm.

SCHOOL-WIDE
POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR
SUPPORT PROGRAM
Our school Rules are:
Be Safe  Be Respectful
Be Responsible  Be a Learner

St Michael’s Week Two, Term 2, SWPBS focus—
Be a Learner, specifically

Am I a cooperative group member?

2014/15 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
The 2014/15 Entertainment Book is available to purchase from the Front Office for $60. You are able to purchase it as a book or as an app for your phone.

Please see Lisa at the Front Office for more details.
ST MICHAEL’S PARISH
CONTACT DETAILS
Administrator: Father Warrick Tonkin
Pastoral Assistant: Sr Kate McMahon
Address: 2 Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen, ACT 2617
Telephone: (02) 6241 3364  Fax: (02) 6241 0747
Parish Email: stm.kaleen@cg.catholic.org.au
Email: k.mcmahon3@bigpond.com

ST MICHAEL’S NOTICE BOARD

BOOKCLUB
Please contact Mrs Monro or Mrs Arena if you have any queries regarding Bookclub. **BOOK CLUB DUE BACK FRIDAY 9TH MAY**

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is carried out every Wednesday. Please leave your banking books at the Front Office.

DANCECORE
Dancecore will now commence in Term 3. Please call Cassie on 0417 442 750

GUITAR
Please contact Sam Strano on 0408 196 855

PIANO
Please contact Mary-Liz Partridge 0413 425 753

SPEECH & DRAMA
Tuesday lunchtimes. Please call Elizabeth McIntosh 6255 9054.

YMCA OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS
For further information, please contact the YMCA of Canberra Children’s Services Headquarters on 6242 4040 or cscanberra@ymca.org.au.”

Vacancies available Monday to Thursday. Please register your interest for Fridays’ on our website www.canberra.ymca.org.au

PETE MORTON ACADEMY OF JUDO JUJITSU KARATE
Classes held in the school hall on a Thursday evening for children and adults. Please contact Peter Wilson 0412 628 450 or email: info@pjtracks.com.au

Remember if your child is unable to make a private lesson due to an excursion or illness you will need to contact the appropriate person to cancel their lesson.

CANTEEN NEWS
Please note - the new winter canteen menu will be operating from the start of Term 2; Price change—Lasagne now $3.80.
**Don’t forget that lunch orders can be ordered online through Flexischools, information is available from the Front Office.**

CANTEEN - Help required on all Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for 2014
Please contact Caitlyn Frost on caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au

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Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Thursday: 9.30am
Liturgy of the Word
Saturday: 9am
Weekend Masses
Sunday: 8am and 5.30pm