Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you have all been able to share some quality time with your family over the recent break. Whilst thinking about an appropriate way to start this first newsletter of the term, the following prayer shared by Daniela in the 3/4W class this week, was brought to my attention.

What better sentiment to set the scene for the term, than that of love, acceptance and respect as outlined in this short prayer.

We are all born in a different way
How we look
What we say
From different countries around the world
Of different genders boys and girls
If everyone were the same you see
You wouldn’t be you and I wouldn’t be me

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL
Time to clear out those cupboards! To assist the St Vincent de Paul winter appeal, we are collecting unwanted blankets and jackets. Please send all goods into the front office.

URGENT
The new operation of the canteen is proving to be popular, but this is still reliant on some volunteer support. Please let Lisa know if you can help, even if you can add your name to an emergency/casual list. We do not have any volunteers for tomorrow and Empire Catering have organised external volunteers on a one off occasion. In future the canteen may unfortunately have to close for the week if we have no volunteers.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS
The Term 3 Fee statements have gone home this week. Thank you for your attendance to this important commitment. Please ensure that your regular payments will cover the fees for the rest of 2016. If you are experiencing any difficulties in covering the fees, please contact Judy Walsh to discuss a way forward.

CHANGES TO ACTION BUS TIMETABLE
On Monday 29th August 2016, ACTION will be implementing a new timetable for the weekday bus network. This includes some timing changes to the ACTION schools network. Many regular route services have also changed and students using these services will be also affected. This new timetable information is now available on the Transport Canberra website, under Weekday timetable changes, 29 August 2016.

ENERGY WARRIORS
In an effort to be proactive in ‘Taking stewardship of God’s creation to ensure its preservation’ from our Mission statement, a number of initiatives are underway in the school. Sustainability and waste management have been investigated with ongoing implementation of some improvement measures. The most recent initiative follows an energy audit on the school, and involves raising the children’s awareness of our energy use through the ‘Energy Warriors Team’.

Students from each class work together to monitor all energy saving options in our classrooms and shared spaces. This ranges from heating/power points/lights being turned off when not in use and power-saving options being activated for equipment where available. The children are very enthusiastic and enjoying being little detectives, as they aim to reduce our energy use and be involved in a little bit of healthy competition between the classes. This approach can be carried out at home as well! See the posters on the library windows and the flyers sent home with the children this week for further information. Take on the Carbon Challenge!

Thought of the week:
God doesn't look at how much we do, but with how much love we do it.
Mother Teresa

Yours in partnership
Judy

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

NEXT WEEK
25/7/16 Peer Support
26/7/16 Tennis K-2
27/7/16 Maths Olympiad 3
28/7/16 Australian Maths Competition Tennis 3-6
29/7/16 WSPT 3/4W @ 12.50

COMING UP
5/8/16 Confirmation Retreat Day
10/8/16 Sacrament of Confirmation
2/9/16 Father’s Day Picnic @ 3pm
5/9/16 Reconciliation Information Night
11/9/16 Reconciliation Commitment Mass
9/11/16 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Notes gone home this week
- Swimming Notes—K-2
- Book Club—Issue 5
- Term 3 Fee Statements
- Carbon Challenge Information

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Harmony Happenings

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
If your child has been selected to represent our school at the Belconnen Regional Athletics Carnival, they should have received a note about this at the end of last term. If you would like your child to participate in this event on Tuesday 9th August, please send the permission note and $7 to school no later than Wednesday 27th July. This will allow us to register our school team by the due date. If your child would not like to participate in this carnival, please send the note back to school with the DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION section circled. Thank you for your assistance with this.

If you would like to assist as an official on the day, please fill in the appropriate section on the permission slip.

K-2 SWIMMING
If you have a child (or children) in Kinder, Year 1 or Year 2 you should have received a swimming note from them on Monday. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please fill in all the required information and send the notes (there should be three of them) back to school by Thursday 4th August. If your child is unable to participate in this program for any reason please let Mrs Monro or myself (Mrs de Smet) know so that we don’t try and chase you for notes;) St Michael’s swimming for these grades will be taking place this term in Weeks 7 and 8.

TENNIS
For the next 5 weeks your child/ren will be participating in Tennis lessons. If you have a child/ren in K-2 these will be taking place at school on Tuesday. All children in Years 3-6 will be making the short walk to the tennis courts on Thursdays. If your child has a tennis racket that they would like to use they can bring these in on the appropriate day.

BOOROWA CARNIVAL
If you would like your child to participate in this carnival please send this note back to school ASAP. We are extending the due date for these notes until the end of Week 2 at this stage.

Mrs Medway and Miss Frogley are going to hand out some more notes for this event in the next couple of days. Please read the information about payment amounts and options. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Isabella Foster. The ACT Junior Calisthenics team placed third overall in the 2016 Australian Calisthenics Federation Nationals held in Adelaide during the holidays. Well done!

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:
Vincent 3/4F, James 5/6M and Michael 5/6P

We hope you have a great day!

PEER SUPPORT
Year 6 leaders are excited to announce that our Peer Support Program resumes next Monday. Groups, led by the Year 6 students and assisted by Year 5 students, will run every Monday afternoon from Weeks 2-10. Students from all year levels will participate in multi-aged groups to focus on a value each week. Lesson 1 will be an introductory session for group members to get to know each other. Peer Support is always a great opportunity for developing relationships, school values and leadership skills. We look forward to the term ahead.

STUDENT VOICE FORUM
Next Thursday 28th July, James 5/6M and Grace 5/6M will represent St Michael’s at the Student Voice Forum in Stirling. Students from across the ACT have been invited to share opportunities for student engagement and participation in issues that matter to learning, across the Education System. Students will have the opportunity to work in groups and contribute to the forum in the presence of Government and Educational leaders and media. Go team!

ICAS DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

MATHS OLYMPIAD
Test 3 will be held next Wednesday 27 July. Participating students from 5/6 will again have the opportunity to share in a group practice session with Mrs Walsh on Monday next week. May the force be with you!

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
31 Students from Years 3-6 will participate in the AMC next Thursday 28 July, along with students from 30 other countries. The competition consists of 25 multiple-choice questions and 5 whole-number questions. All students will receive a participation or proficiency certificate later in the term. Good luck.

IMPORTANT CANTEEN INFORMATION
We require your help. If you are able to volunteer for the Term 3 Canteen Roster, please contact Lisa on 6241 4022.

We are also looking for a volunteer to coordinate the Canteen Roster. We would greatly appreciate your assistance as a contact for volunteers.

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday 22nd July (Week 1)
9-11.30
Help Required
Help Required
Eileen Wood
Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
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Help Required
Help Required

Help Required
Help Required
Harmony Fair Update

If you have any capacity to volunteer, organise an event, to get your dance or judo troop on the stage, to assist with First Aid, to donate a prize, or if you have an idea that you want to pursue, then let us know.

Contact us on our email—harmonyfaircoordinators@gmail.com

Please like ‘St Michael's Harmony Fair’ on Facebook to show your support for the fair and our sponsors.

TOMBOLA DAYS
Watch this space for upcoming Tombola Days. Families are asked to donate themed prizes that will be used for the Tombola Stall at the Twilight Fair in October. These days will be held in Weeks 3 and 7 in Term 3 and Week 1 of Term 4. The first donation we are calling for will be bags of lollies. Students will be allowed to wear a hat of their choice to mark Hats On Day on the 1st August. More information to come!

Our new option to pay through Qkr will make your life easier for this Fair!

When the time comes, you will be able to pay for wrist bands; Mick the star; raffle tickets; and any new innovations that are introduced for this Fair.

Download the app now so you are ready:) Details for this are available on our website under attachments.

Thanks to our Fair Sponsors so far...