Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Welcome to 2017 at St Michael’s! Welcome back to all our families and a special welcome to the Barua, Bilich-Eric, Buckley, Calabro, Copping, Cox, Fernandez, Gafa, Hand, Harrington, Lualua, Presneill, Pudja, Wilkes and Lourdes families who have joined our community this year. We look forward to supporting your children’s educational journey, providing learning challenges in an atmosphere of harmony and respect. We have had a wonderful start to the year with smiles all round.

Please find attached to the email your invitation to the Welcome Night next Tuesday, 7th February starting at 6.30pm. We look forward to starting the year with this opportunity to catch up with other parents in a social setting, before gaining a brief understanding of how your children’s classes will operate, and also a chance to ask some questions. We appreciate your efforts to have your family represented by at least one adult.

This year we have taken ‘Light the Way’ as the theme for the year. God gives us the gift of light. We are all called to be a light to the world in our every word, thought and action. As we begin a new year together, may we find many opportunities to ‘Light the Way’ for ourselves, all members of our school, and the wider community. This goal aligns closely to the key themes from our Mission statement; harmony, challenge, relationships and stewardship.

MASS
Next Thursday, 9th February, at 9.30am, we will formally launch our theme as we celebrate our whole school opening Mass with Fr Loi. The children and staff will contribute to the creation of a display as a constant reminder of our theme. We hope you can join us.

UNIFORM
Thank you all for the effort shown to send the children to school in the correct uniform. They certainly look smart when they are correctly dressed. Just a reminder that sport shoes should be predominantly white (including the laces), and the regular uniform includes black school shoes.

If the start of the year has uncovered uniforms that don’t fit anymore, or have lost all their colour, there are quite a number of items in the second hand cupboard that are in very good condition. They are available for a gold coin donation per piece. Perhaps you need to do a swap for a bigger size – that is also available.

Help Wanted: If you could spare a short amount of time, maybe once a week, to check the clothing cupboards and help keep them tidy and sorted; your help would be greatly appreciated. Please see Lisa if you can help.

PARENT REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK (PRN) 2017
We are currently looking for parents interested in taking on the role of 2017 Parent Representative for their child’s class. Representatives will be the liaison to assist and support the class teacher in conveying information about classroom and school activities to the class. Representatives are required to communicate with class teachers regularly. Representatives are expected to attend the Community Council Open Meeting in March.

If you are interested and able to commit to the above or would like more information, please email jo.krippner@cg.catholic.edu.au. Final appointments will take into consideration prior involvement in the school and current capacity to fulfil the role.

Thought for the Week:
Walk gently and lightly on your path ....
And leave a trail of lights so others may find their way.

Yours in partnership,

Judy
ST MICHAEL’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY
This year our Swimming Carnival is being held at the Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre on Wednesday 15th February (Week 3). Event nomination forms and parent helper information was sent home earlier this week. Please fill these in as soon as possible and return them back to school. We are looking forward to a great day.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SOCCER CARNIVAL SAVE THE DATE
The Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival will be held on Sunday 26th March. Please watch this space in the coming weeks for more information about this exciting event.

YEAR 5/6 BELCONNEN REGION TRIAL NOTES
If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and they would like to represent the Belconnen Region in their chosen sport please talk to them about listening out for information about trial notes that will be brought to their attention throughout Term 1 and Term 2. These notes get sent to the school at different times as these carnivals are held throughout the first half of the year. Miss Peterson will be giving this information to the students.

COMMUNITY CARNIVAL NRL ‘RESPECT’ ASSEMBLY
On Monday 20th February a selection of Canberra Raiders players will present an assembly to the whole school promoting a respectful and successful team through the values of ‘Belonging and ‘Celebrating Differences’. We look forward to hear all about respecting and valuing diversity.

COUNSELLOR
My name is Carrie Coghlan, I am a Student and Family Counsellor with CatholicCare and I will be at St Michael’s Primary School once a fortnight on a Thursday from 9am to 3.30pm. My role is to assist in the emotional, social and educational wellbeing of the students, their families and the school community. I provide a friendly and safe space to talk about any kind of problem your child might be experiencing, big or small. Sometimes early help can prevent an issue becoming big! If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to have a chat with me and we can work out a plan to support your child together. You can contact me through school reception, or you can speak with your child’s teacher if you’d like your child to see me.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrated their birthday in the holidays:
Special wishes to those children who celebrated their birthdays this week:
Jimmy KM, Jordan 1/2F, Bailey 5/6B, Declan 5/6P, Maya KM & Luca KM

CANTEEN ROSTER
The canteen will reopen tomorrow and will operate every Friday.
Friday 3rd February (Week 1) 9-11.30 11.30-2
Serae Love HELP REQUIRED
HELP REQUIRED HELP REQUIRED Friday 10th February (Week 2) 9-11.30 11.30-2
Ellen Arena Eileen Wood HELP REQUIRED HELP REQUIRED
Helpers are required on Friday’s from either 9-11.30 or 11.30-2. We are also looking for a coordinator to organise the roster. If you can assist in anyway, please contact Lisa in the Front Office, any help is greatly appreciated.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
DANCECORE - Dance classes will recommence in Term 2 at recess, day to be confirmed.
CHESS - Chess classes are held in the Library on Tuesday’s from 1.20—2, forms are available from the Front Office.
PIANO - Sam is continuing guitar lessons on a Thursday, please contact Sam on 0408 196855
DANCECORE - Dance classes will recommence in Term 2 at recess, day to be confirmed.
CHESS - Chess classes are held in the Library on Tuesday’s from 1.20—2, forms are available from the Front Office.
PIANO - Sam is continuing guitar lessons on a Thursday, please contact Sam on 0408 196855
SPEECH & DRAMA - Drama classes are being held on Tuesday lunchtimes, please contact Elizabeth McIntosh if you are interested, she can be contacted on 2655 9054.
SCHOOL BANKING - Mrs Firth has kindly offered to run the school banking again. Banking day is Friday, forms to open new accounts are available at the Front Office.
BOOKCLUB - Scholastic Bookclub will run again this year, there will be 2 issues each term. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Monro or Mrs Arena. Issue 1 is due back 15th February.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO HELP US ALL START THE YEAR SMOOTHLY
A Student Information Checklist was sent home yesterday, please make sure that all details are correct and that your preferred email address is included and correct for the newsletter.

Medical Alert forms were also sent home yesterday, please complete and return this form as soon as possible if your child has a medical alert. All the puffers that are currently at school are out of date and must be replaced. Action plans must be updated and provided to the school. Parents must contact Lisa to sign a form for medication to be administered by staff at school.

Mobile Phones: Please remind your children that all mobile phones must be left at the Front Office and not kept in school bags or desks.

Parking/pick-up from Tyrrell Circuit beside the oval—please ensure that NO vehicles are parked in the turning circle as the Action bus needs to be able to turn safely. Please check parking information on the website under Newsletter/Notes (attachments) - Car Park Note, to ensure safety for everyone on the basketball courts. The staff carpark and drive through across the front of the school is NOT to be used to drop-off or pick-up children at any time. Thank You.