Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Welcome to a new year where an attitude of caring for each other and having fun, will aim to support the learning and development of every student.

During 2014, our school management plan included a focus on the wording of our Mission and Vision statements, to ensure the language and meaning were contemporary and still relevant for the current and future students. All the key themes have been retained, with the wording chosen to be readily understood and remembered by the students. We start 2015 with this new way of approaching all we do in the school.

**Our Mission**
At St Michael’s Catholic Primary School we strive to foster hearts of compassion, kindness and forgiveness inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus. The rainbow and the cross are symbols that remind us to live in harmony with all of God’s creation.

**Our Vision**
In the next five years, we will give expression to our mission by;

- Being a people of **harmony** in a place of challenge inspired by the Gospels
- Nurturing caring **relationships** that value the dignity of each person
- Providing an authentic **education** for all students that is supportive and empowering
- Taking **stewardship** of God’s creation to ensure its preservation

**INFORMATION NIGHT** –
**Tuesday 10 February, 6 – 7.30pm**
Our format over the last two years has been well received by the parents who have attended. We have endeavoured to provide parents with some **mini professional development** sessions, by giving short presentations on a range of school–related topics.

The outline for this year is:
- **Wine & cheese available on arrival (Hall)**
- **Overview of structure for multi-age classes – Judy (Hall)**
- **Session Choices:**
  - Literacy
  - Numeracy
  - Sacramental Program (Years 3, 4, 6)
  - Assessment & Reporting
  - Homework

The evening will conclude with a visit to your child’s classroom to collect the term overview and hear specific information from the teachers.

**NOTES GONE HOME THIS WEEK**
- Catholic Voice
- Swimming Carnival notes
- Dancecore note
- Chess note
- Medical Alert Forms

**COMING EVENTS**

**Monday 9th February**
- Swimming Carnival—Big Splash

**Tuesday 10th February**
- Parent Information Evening @ 6pm

**Thursday 12th February**
- Open School Mass @ 9.30am

**Friday 13th February**
- Whole School Prayer Time 3/4P @ 12.50

**Monday 16th February**
- Year 5/6 Camp

**Tuesday 17th February**
- Year 5/6 Camp

**Wednesday 18th February**
- Year 5/6 Camp @ 12pm
RECOMMENDATION AT ST MICHAEL’S
Welcome back to the new school year for 2015. I look forward to working with the whole St Michael’s Community to
enrich the spiritual life of this wonderful parish and school.

MASSES
The whole school opening Mass will be presented by Year 5/6H on Thursday 12th February at 9:30 am and Year 3/4P will
be presenting our first Whole School Prayer Time for the year on the theme of Harmony on Friday 13th February at
12:50pm. Parents, families and friends are warmly invited to come and join in these celebrations with us.

EUCHARIST (YR4)
If you have a child in year 4 and would like them to receive the sacrament of Eucharist this year then
you will need to attend the information night for parents on 11th March at 7pm in the school hall.
Please also note the commitment Mass for the candidates for Eucharist will be Sunday 15th March at
8am.

Michael Wensing
Religious Education Coordinator

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO HELP US ALL START THE YEAR SMOOTHLY

Coming home next week is a Student Information Checklist – please make sure
that all details are correct and that your preferred email address is included and
correct for the newsletter.

Medical Alert forms have been sent home this week – please complete and return
as soon as possible. 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 if medication is to be administered by staff
at school.

School Fee Statements will be sent home next week. Please check your statement –
there may be a need to adjust direct debit payments. Forms are available from the
front office. Please make an appointment to meet with me to discuss any
potential issues in payment. Families of Year 5 and 6 students need to adjust
payments to cover school camp or can opt to pay the amount in full.

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

Playground equipment: Unfortunately we are unable to have a teacher supervising
the school equipment before or after school; hence we have instructed the children
that they are NOT permitted to play on the equipment even if their parent is
present. It is not public equipment so there is a conflict of responsibility when staff
are on the premises. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation, thank you.

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 Community
Notes—Car Park Note, to ensure safety for everyone on the basketball courts. The
staff carpark and drive through across the front of school is NOT to be used to
drop-off or pick-up children at any time.

Canteen: The canteen is desperately in need of helpers, please consider giving up
an hour or two of your time. Without your help the canteen may not be able to
operate. Please email Caitlyn Frost on Caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au.

ATTENTION ALL PARENT HELPERS
LITERACY WORKSHOP
SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH READING AND WRITING

In response to enquiries from parents who requested guidance
in helping their children become
more proficient readers and
writers, we are offering an
information session. This session
will outline reading and writing
strategies that can be
implemented to help children
become more efficient readers
and writers. This workshop is also
for parents who come into the
school and help in classrooms.
All parent helpers must attend
these information sessions; these
sessions will provide strategies
that you as parents can implement
in the classroom and at home.
Two sessions will be run for your
convenience. If you are attending
could you please ring Lisa Monro
at the front office (6241 4022)
and let us know.

Workshops will be held
Wednesday 25th February
Session 1: 9.30am
Session 2: 5.30pm
ST MICHAEL’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL
This year our Swimming Carnival is being held at Big Splash on **Monday 9th February (Week 2)**. Event nomination forms must be returned by tomorrow at the latest as your child’s races need to be put into the carnival computer program.

Students need to wear hats, protective clothing and sunscreen. They will need to bring their fruit break, recess and lunch and plenty of water to drink. The kiosk will be open during morning tea and lunch.

A big thank you to all the parents who have offered to help next Monday. Please look in your child’s bag for information about your job on the day.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SOCCER CARNIVAL
This year, the annual Archdiocesan Primary Schools’ Soccer Carnival will be held on **Sunday 15th March**. This Carnival is open to both boys and girls and involves combined Years 3/4 and combined Years 5/6 teams competing with Catholic schools from across the ACT and surrounding regions. The 3/4 teams will have 8 aside and the 5/6 teams will have 11 aside. Over the last few years the Catholic schools sporting carnivals have attracted much interest and the day is greatly enjoyed by all involved.

ST MICHAEL’S MASTERMINDS
To enter, place your solution along with your full name and class into the competition box at the Front Office. Entries need to be in by next Wednesday. The first correct entry drawn will be published in next week’s newsletter and will receive a canteen voucher.

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<th>How many days of Summer are left?</th>
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<td>I am an odd number. Take away one letter and I become even. What number am I?</td>
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrated their birthdays in the holidays:
- Mia 5/6H, Maria 5/6W, Patrick 5/6W, Stefano KD,
- Henry 1/2S, Grace 5/6H, William KD, Jillian KD,
- Cameron KD, Quentin 1/2H, Gemma 3/4P,
- Katie 3/4F, Jack 3/4B, Zac 1/2W, Noah 3/4F,
- Aimee 5/6W, Luca 3/4F, Anthony 1/2H, Mr Wensing & Mrs Krippner

Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
- Bailey 3/4B, Declan 3/4F, James 5/6W, Olivia 5/6W,
- Connor 5/6H, Luke 5/6H,
- Adam KD & Mrs Monro

We hope you have a great day!

CANTINE - Help desperately required on all Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for 2015
Please contact Caitlyn Frost on caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au

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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

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS
Parents and Carers of children aged 2-10 years are invited to
Bringing Up Great Kids a parenting program developed by the
Australian Childhood Foundation which will be presented by
CatholicCare commencing WEDNESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2015
from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course
is 3 hours per week over a 4 week period and the
fee of $100 includes course materials and supper.

THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE
Program for parents of Adolescents will be offered
by CatholicCare commencing WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH 2015
from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course is run over
3 weeks and the fee of $80 includes course materials and supper. This course is suitable for parents of children in Primary
Years 5 & 6 and Secondary School Years 7-12.

Bookings are essential please contact 61626100.

COMMONWEALTH BANK

SCHOOL BANKING REWARDS NOW AVAILABLE! TERM 1
These new rewards have just been released for Term 1, and are available while stocks last:
- ET DVD
- Planet Handball

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for these exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their
continued savings behaviour. There are 2 new items to come in Term 2 as well!

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

If your children are not currently involved in the School Banking program and you would like to know more, please ask for a 2015
School Banking program Information Pack from the School office.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program and don’t forget that Friday is School Banking day!

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

DANCECORE - Dance classes will commence next Thursday at recess, forms are available from the Front Office.
CHESS - Chess classes are held in the Library on Wednesdays from 3.10-4.10, forms are available at the Front Office.
GUITAR - Sam is continuing guitar lessons, please contact Sam on 0408 196 855.
PIANO - Mary-Liz is continuing piano lessons, please contact Mary-Liz on 0413 425 753
SPEECH & DRAMA - Drama classes are being held on Tuesday lunchtimes, please contact Elizabeth McIntosh if you
are interested. Mrs McIntosh is offering a private class (free) for any keen students, please contact her to arrange this.
SCHOOL BANKING - Mrs Firth has kindly offered to run the school banking. Banking day is Friday, forms to open new
accounts are available from the Front Office.
BOOKCLUB - Scholastic Bookclub will run again this year, if you have any queries contact Mrs Monro or Mrs Arena.