Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

What a beautiful autumn morning we had for our community to come together again for a new term. I trust you were all able to spend quality family time during the break – those times just enjoying each other’s company are precious.

Finishing our holiday break with the ANZAC centenary celebrations was also a wonderful opportunity to be involved in the wider community. I was fortunate to be in the NSW town of Forbes for ANZAC Day and attended the mid-morning ceremony with two of my grandchildren, including five year old Hunter, wearing his great grandfather’s medal miniatures. It was a very moving ceremony, featuring an address by a local resident, Andrew Drane, who read an extract from his great grandfather, T. E. Drane’s diary.

Mr Drane had a captive audience as he read out his great grandfather’s account of being in the first boats at the Gallipoli landing on April 25, 1915. This story was also included in an Anzac Day feature on 60 Minutes on Sunday night.

Lest we Forget.

Late last year three of our current Year Six leaders, Isabella M, Harry RB and Will D represented St Michael’s as they contributed to the Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour Soundscape, ‘Remember Me’. This initiative was to capture voice recordings of children from schools around Australia as they read the name and age of those 62 000 servicemen and servicewomen who appear on the First World War Roll of Honour. These voice recordings will be played in the First World War section of the Cloisters in the Commemorative Area of the War Memorial.

ENROLMENT FOR 2016

Next week we begin three weeks (4 – 22 May) of the official enrolment period for 2016. 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 an Information Evening on the 6th May and two open days, the 8th 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 2016, 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.

THE WINTER TERMS

I thank the families for your efforts in sending the children back so well presented in their winter uniforms. I acknowledge those still holding on to the hope for warmer weather, but ask that we are all in full winter uniform by the end of week two. 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 shoes should comply with the uniform requirements listed on the website.

SUPPORT FOR THE HARDEST JOB – PARENTING! From Michael Grose

New articles uploaded to our website dealing with - Getting ready for NAPLAN; and Be careful what you wish for as a parent.

Thought for the Week

Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood. Ralph Waldo Emerson

Yours in partnership

Judy

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 3rd May</td>
<td>Sacrament of Eucharist @ 8am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4th May</td>
<td>Year 3/4 War Memorial Excursion</td>
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<td>Tuesday 5th May</td>
<td>Year 6 girls to Merici</td>
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<td>Wednesday 6th May</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Prayer Service and Morning Tea @ 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 7th May</td>
<td>Year 1/2 Tidbinbilla Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8th May</td>
<td>St Michael’s Open Day @ 10am, 2pm &amp; 5.30pm</td>
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NOTES GONE HOME THIS WEEK

- Dancecore Enrolment Form
- Catholic Voice
- Canteen Note
- Book Club
- Mothers’ Day Morning Tea invitation
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST MICHAEL’S

RECONCILIATION – Year 3
Wednesday 9th September @ 7pm
Parent Information Evening with Fr Warrick
Sunday 13th September @ 8am
Commitment Mass
Wednesday 4th November @ 6pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation

EUCHARIST – Year 4
Sunday 3rd May @ 8am
Sacrament of Eucharist
All families and friends are welcome to attend this Mass and support our students receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist.

CONFIRMATION – Year 6
Wednesday 10th June @ 7pm
Parent Information Evening with Fr Warrick
Sunday 14th June @ 8am
Commitment Mass
Friday 14th August @ 6pm
Sacrament of Confirmation

ANZAC DAY
This year Anzac Day commemorates 100 years since the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops in Gallipoli. But the day signifies more than just Gallipoli. It is the day on which we remember Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of the Anzac, continues today to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity. Year 5/6W commemorated this day with a solemn prayer service on Monday morning. Special guest Mr Michaelis, Secretary of the National Veterans Affairs attended the prayer service and read for us the Ode of Remembrance and the poem In Flanders Fields.

ST MICHAEL’S WALKATHON
TUESDAY, 19TH MAY 2015
Last term we launched the St Michael’s Walkathon campaign for 2015. The students were given a sponsorship card to start collecting as many sponsors as possible amongst family, friends and workmates. (We do not encourage knocking on stranger’s doors!). Once again St Michael’s has been very fortunate to receive lots of wonderful prizes from ACT businesses to be awarded to our participating students.

FOR EVERY $5.00 COLLECTED, STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN A TICKET TO GO INTO A BARREL FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF MANY PRIZES FROM OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS. VOUCHERS WILL BE DRAWN AT A SPECIAL WALKATHON ASSEMBLY.

This year students have been given a chance to determine what extravagances can reward the amount of money collected. We are looking for some new and exciting ideas for the $8,000.00 target and $10,000.00 target. Ideas for this can be placed in the suggestion box located in the library.

YEAR 4 EUCHARIST RETREAT DAY
Today Year 4 students spent the day preparing for the sacrament of Eucharist which will be celebrated this coming Sunday, May 3rd at the 8am Mass. The students attended the Parish Mass, followed by Reconciliation with Father Warrick and then read and broke open the story of the Last Supper. They examined the significance of the story in relation to the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

WAKAKIRRI!
Our school is preparing to enter WAKAKIRRI 2015- Australia’s Search for the Best Story! Our Story Dance Performance will include the students from Years 3 - 6 who are very excited to be taking part.
They will be participating in an unforgettable experience; by being involved in the creating, preparing and performing of our Story-Dance item – A story told to music using creative movement, dance and drama.

This term, the students and teachers will be looking at the Story outline and the plan for the weeks ahead before show time in Term 3.

We would love the support of parents so if you can help in any of the following ways, please contact Jo Krippner. In the meantime, visit the website www.wakakirri.com for more information and updates.

Perhaps you;
- Can assist with props and set making.
- Can help with fundraising & Sponsorship.
- Could encourage your child to take part, get involved and ask how it’s going.
- Stay tuned to the website www.wakakirri.com and subscribe to Wakakirri to keep updated with the Wakakirri Story.
- Purchase tickets to the Show to see your child and school perform LIVE at a Professional Theatre.
- Have skills you can offer the group; costume making, make up and Hair designing.

We look forward to sharing our 2015 Wakakirri Story with you!

YEAR 5 EUCHARIST RETREAT DAY
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BELCONNEN REGION CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
If your student 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 the 22nd May.

WALKATHON
Our walkathon is being held on Tuesday 19th May this year. You should have received a note about this and a sponsorship card at the end of last term. We had our first barrel draw yesterday and Brooke (1/2S) was the lucky student to be picked out. Thank you for your efforts so far to collect sponsors. A note about helpers for this whole school event will be coming home shortly.

ACT 12 YEARS AND UNDER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Good luck to Susan (5/6W) who will be representing the Belconnen Region at this event next Thursday 7th May.

ATHLETES FOOT VISIT
On Wednesday Scott and Levi of the Athletes Foot presented a wonderful lesson on tying shoes to Years 1 and 2. Each student had their own special shoe on which to practice tying laces. With our Year 6's as buddies and the help of a video, laces were tied and retied. If you need your shoe laces tied, just ask our 1/2's.

WRITE 4 FUN COMPETITION
Congratulations to Max (1/2S), Angelina (1/2W), Aaron (3/4F), Zoe (3/4F), Shakira (3/4P), Andrea and Daniela (5/6H) for submitting an entry in the Write 4 fun Competition. We look forward to finding out who the winners are shortly. Good luck everyone!!!

MOTHERS’ DAY PRAYER SERVICE
Next Wednesday 6th May, the whole school will celebrate a prayer service for all our Mothers prior to Mother’s Day on Sunday 10th May. Please come along and share in this lovely service prepared by the Kindergarten class in the church at 10.00am. We welcome all Mothers, Grandmothers and anyone else who would like to join us. Morning Tea will be served for all our guests in the hall at recess from 10:50am. For catering purposes, please complete and send back the RSVP on the separate invitation coming home today. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays in the holidays:
Harry 5/6H, Alex 1/2H, Cassie 3/4F, Matthew 5/6H, Liana 1/2W,
Susan 5/6W, Matthew 5/6H,
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Ana 3/4P, Brodie 1/2H, Cooper 1/2S and Kaitlyn 5/6H

CANTEEEN - If you are able to volunteer your help in the canteen in Term 2 please contact Caitlyn Frost on caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au or 6241 4022.

BOOK CLUB - Orders are due back to the Front Office by Monday 11th May 2015. Any queries please contact Lisa Monro or Kylie Arena on 6241 4022.
CHIEF MINISTER’S READING CHALLENGE 2015
This year St Michael’s has enrolled in the Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge. The Challenge requires students to read 12 books. We have decided to run the Challenge over 12 weeks. **12 books in 12 weeks.** Forms for students to record their books were sent home at the end of last term and were to be returned in Week 10 Term 2.

By participating students can win book vouchers for our school library. The following is part of the Chief Minister’s message:

“This year you can choose your own books or ask your parents, teacher, librarian or Libraries ACT public librarian for their suggestions. You could even try one of my favourite books from when I was in year 6, The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 ¾.

I encourage you to be adventurous in your reading and choose a variety of books by different authors. You may want to choose to read some books in a language other than English.

*My challenge is for even more of you to get into reading in 2015!*”

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.

Week 10 answers:

K-2 No correct answers
3-6 No correct answers

REMINDERS - WINTER UNIFORM
Term Two means winter uniform! As usual, Canberra weather at this time of the year is very erratic, so, should we have a little burst of Summer again, we will have two weeks for changeover. However, if the weather is indicative of Autumn/Winter, all students should be in full winter uniform please from the start of term. Please ensure that the uniform fits and that items (particularly jumpers) are labelled clearly. Thank you. There are many items in the second hand pool at the moment, so you may be able to check if you need extras.

YEAR 7—2016 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING AND OPEN DAYS

Our Year 7 2016 Information Evening is being held on **Monday 11th May commencing** at 5pm with tours of the College and followed at 6.30pm with a formal information session.

SFX Open Day is Friday 15th May from 9am – 2.30pm.

MERICI COLLEGE
Wise Street, Braddon
ACT 2612 | GPO Box 154, Canberra 2601
ph: (02) 6243 4100

DARAMALAN COLLEGE
Cowper Street
DICKSON
Ph: 6245 6300

Our Year 7 2016 Information Evening is on **Wednesday 6th May from 9.30am to 7pm.**

Our Year 7 2016 Information Evening is being held on **Tuesday 12th May from 6pm to 7.15pm.**