Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Final preparations have been occurring this week for our Year Four students who will receive their First Eucharist on Sunday. This is a special day in their spiritual life and we ask all families to remember them in your prayers over this weekend. They have displayed their readiness through their participation in the Retreat Day today, as they shared their excitement with each other. God’s blessings on the children and their families as they share in this special occasion.

NAPLAN

I received this pictorial version of my message last week regarding the Naplan testing, so I thought I would share it with you now that the tests are finished. Diagnostic testing and the data from it have a place in our teaching and learning. But it is essential we remember, and the children know, how important these other attributes are in becoming the person they are meant to be.

ENROLMENT FOR 2017

It has been wonderful to welcome new families and very eager pre-schoolers to St Michael’s over the last two weeks. Our Year 6 leaders have done a wonderful job as tour guides, living out our philosophy of harmony and sharing their enthusiasm for their school. A reminder to any current families, that if you have a pre-schooler who will turn 5 before the end of April 2017, we ask you to collect an enrolment form from Lisa and return it before the end of next week (May 20th). You are also very welcome to bring them along so that they can have a special tour as a future student at St Michael’s.

REMINDERS: A couple of messages from the office. Thank you in advance.

- Should your child have a medical condition, you must complete a medical alert form and return it to the office please.
- If your contact details or emergency contacts change, please let Lisa know immediately. It is very distressing for a child if they are unwell and we are unable to contact someone in your family.
- All students should now be in full winter uniform, your assistance with this would be appreciated. At no times does our uniform include nail polish.

Thought for the week
Excellence is doing ordinary things extraordinarily well." - John W. Gardner

Yours in partnership
Judy
ST MICHAEL’S CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL RESULTS
Better late than never!!! Congratulations to the Blue Tongue Lizards who came 1st in our carnival this year with 388 points. Following in 2nd place was the Gold Dingoes with 352 points. The Green Crocodiles came 3rd with 336 points and in 4th was the Red Kangaroos with 308 points. Well done everyone.

BELCONNEN REGION CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL 20th MAY
All notes, along with the $7 fee (if your child is participating in this carnival) should have made their way back to school by today. If we have not received a note back by now we are assuming that you would not like your child to participate in the carnival. Thank you for your assistance with this. We are looking forward to an exciting carnival next Friday (hopefully it won’t be quite as cold as it is right now!).

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY SAVE THE DATE
Walk safely to school day is being held next Friday 20th May. Please feel free to participate in this event in any way that you can.

AFL CLINICS
Unfortunately, AFL clinics will have to be changed to MONDAYS for Weeks 4, 5 and 6 due to an injury that the scheduled coach sustained playing football. As a result of this we are asking that students come to school in their sports clothes for the next 3 Mondays and then they will wear their winter uniform on Tuesday instead. Thank you for your flexibility and assistance with this.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL SAVE THE DATE
St Michael’s Athletics Carnival is being held on Thursday 23rd June (weather permitting!). Please watch this space in the coming weeks for more information about this event.

WALKATHON
Congratulations to Alisa in 3/4W for winning the Week 2 raffle. Alisa chose a Rebel Sport $30 voucher and drink bottle. Remember to bring your sponsorship card to school every Friday with new pledges. Every $5 receives a ticket in the raffle. Check out our pledge tally in the window of the Library to see our progress.

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 on WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2016 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. Bookings are essential. Please contact 1800 068 698.

FREE TRIAL
St Michael’s began a free trial of Reading Eggs (ages 5-7) and Reading Eggspress (ages 8-13) this week. Your child has been supplied with a username and password to access these resources from school and home. Please take the opportunity to have a look with your child. Your feedback is welcome as we investigate this as a subscription for our school.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
We hope you have a great day!

NAPLAN
The official tests finish today and there will be a catch up day tomorrow for any students who were absent. Congratulations to all of our Year 3 and Year 5 students who embraced the challenge and brought their determination and motivation to all three days. It is time to let your hair down at the Disco!

DISCO – Friday 13th May
Friday 13th May: Juniors $4 from 5:00-6:00pm and Seniors $5 from 6:30-8:00pm (please pay at the door). There will be hot food, chips, drinks and glow sticks for sale.

KINDER SCREENING
Nurses from the ACT Department of Health will come to our school on Friday 20th May to conduct hearing, vision and growth checks for our Kinders. Parents will receive follow up information and may wish to make an appointment with their GP for a more comprehensive assessment. If your child is absent on the screening day, parents may organise a catch up appointment by phoning the Community Health Intake line on 6207 9977.

VISIT FROM TOTEM HOUSE DAYCARE
On Wednesday we welcomed some little visitors from Totem House in Kaleen. These students came to visit St Michael’s to get a feel of big school. We had a number of willing Year 6 volunteers to assist them around the school. We hope to see some of these visitors as students next year.

2016 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
New books are available at the Front Office or order online at https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/232g38

IMPORTANT CANTEEN INFORMATION
There will be a change to the menu for the Canteen for the remainder of the term. Hot chips and wedges will no longer be available. The demand and supply of these products were creating a challenge in the kitchen, without enough facilities to cook all of the other hot food. These items will be replaced with other options, such as: chicken yummy drummym sticks, mini sausage rolls, cheese and spinach triangles and pizza singles (various flavours). Parents are encouraged to place their orders through Flexischools, rather than manually in the morning. This assists the Canteen helpers to collate and prepare meals. Thank you for your assistance. Please see the Flexischools information sheet attached to the newsletter email.

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday 13th May (Week 3) 9-11.30 11.30-2
Ellen Arena Kiran Grewal
Debbie Snyder Debbie Snyder
Friday 20th May (Week 4) 9-11.30 11.30-2
Sean McPadden Kiran Grewal
Fiona Scherl Eileen Wood