Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends,

At Mass last Sunday in my parish, Fr Luke’s homily was very short and very thought-provoking. In a very strong voice he proclaimed ‘Love costs!’ ‘Love costs!’ and then he pointed to the crucifix hanging behind the altar and said again, ‘Love costs!’ He left it at that, but I ask how much love will we share in this Lenten season?

As we move through the season of Lent, we can think about how we can show our love for others by ‘giving up’ something that will have a positive effect on your life. One or more of these may be useful for you. For this week I put forward possibly giving up - Self-pity ~ this is the ‘I wish’ and the ‘if only’ club. Instead of complaining about what I lack, I could be grateful for what I have – a great lesson for our children to learn too. Perhaps even raise money for Project Compassion.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK – Catholic schools are ‘More than a Great Education’

ST MICHAEL’S COMMUNITY BREAKFAST - Thursday 13th March at 7.30am.

We have a number of members of the wider community who are joining us for this celebration of Catholic Education. We are hoping they will also be joined by many of you, our families who have chosen Catholic Education for their children. Sharing a meal is always a wonderful symbol for a Catholic school, and who better to share it with than our ‘school family’. We would love to use this occasion to thank you for your trust and support. (If you can’t be there at exactly 7.30, breakfast will be served up to approximately 8.15am). Please RSVP to Lisa by tomorrow, Friday 7th March, to help us with catering. Families will also have the opportunity to say a formal farewell to Ms Val Ciuffetelli on this day, as she will join us for the breakfast and Mass.

At 9:30am following the breakfast, the whole school will join with the Parishioners to celebrate Mass in the church. All families are invited and welcome to join us at Mass.

MYSCHOOL DATA RELEASE

A series of Key Messages and Supporting Messages about NAPLAN have been jointly prepared by the Catholic Education Office, the ACT Department of Education and Training, the Association of Independent Schools, Principals, Parent bodies and Unions ahead of the release of data on the Myschool website in the very near future. The messages have been attached to this newsletter for your information and guidance when viewing the Myschool website.

REMINDERS

- HOT FOOD – Please do not send food to be heated in your children’s lunches as, for safety reasons, the canteen/staffroom are not able to heat items.
- Please also include a spoon/fork if your child needs one as these can no longer be provided by the canteen without a charge.
- PARKING/DROP-OFF/PICK-UP – It is a major concern for us that some parents/carers are placing their own and other children in danger when they do not escort the children to the path; and/or drive in through the staff car park. It is unsafe to drop your child in the car park without escorting them to the path, and the staff car park is out of bounds to keep everyone safe as they walk to the entrance. Please follow these rules and keep everyone safe.

Yours in partnership

Judy

COMING EVENTS

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<th>Event Date</th>
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<td>Friday 7th March</td>
<td>Whole School Prayer Time</td>
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<td>Yr 5/6C @ 12.50pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 12th March</td>
<td>Capital Football Soccer Gala</td>
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Thursday 13th March
Catholic Schools Week
Breakfast @ 7.30am
Mass @ 9.30am

Thursday 20th March
Harmony Day/Anti-Bullying Day

IMPORTANT DATES

- 26th/27th/28th March
Year 5/6 Sydney Camp
- Sunday 30th March
Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival
- Friday 4th April
School Disco

NOTES SENT HOME THIS WEEK

-
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST MICHAEL’S

SHARING IN WEEKDAY MASSES
Last Thursday the Year Two students attended the morning parish mass. They were also privileged to have a visit by Fr Warrick. Yesterday, the whole school celebrated a beautiful Mass with the parish community for Ash Wednesday. We thank Year 3/4H for leading us in prayer and song.

WHOLE SCHOOL PRAYER TIME
Tomorrow Friday, 7th March Year 5/6C will encourage us to help “Heal the World” as we contribute to the Project Compassion appeal during Lent. Each family has already been given a Project Compassion box and each class will also receive a box tomorrow. Each class is encouraged to fill the box during the rest of the term, so any loose change would be appreciated.

SPECIAL INVITATION
On Sunday 23rd March at 5.30pm at the St Michael’s Sunday Mass, we will have the honour of a visit from our new diocesan Archbishop Christopher Prowse. We are encouraging your involvement by inviting all families to attend the sacramental celebration.

HARMONY DAY
As usual this day is a key focus for our school. On Thursday 20th March the children will see how “Everyone Belongs” as we meet the challenge to live in Harmony with each other and the world. The whole school will attend the 9.30am parish mass.

LENTEN REFLECTION
How many people do we encounter each day? each week? each year? throughout the course of our lives?
How often do we encounter Jesus present in these people?

“Encounter” is the name given to our Lenten Journey this year and it highlights the distinction between knowing about Jesus and knowing Jesus through our encounter with Him.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday March 5th and on each Friday during Lent you are invited to meet at the Parish House (Presbytery) at 9.00am for prayer, reflection and gentle discussion on “Encountering Jesus” and renewing our relationship with Him during Lent, even have a cuppa.

Everyone is welcome on Friday’s March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th and April 4th and 11th.
Pre-schoolers welcome to join in.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

For over 20 years, International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) have taken place in schools throughout Australia. Your children are invited to participate in 2014 ICAS. ICAS provides opportunities for all students to gain a measure of their own achievements in external assessment situations. They provide teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

Full payment of all competitions is required by Wednesday 26th March 2014. If payment is not received by the due date, your child will not be entered into the competitions, regardless of a nomination form being received.

You will notice that some competitions are more expensive than others. This is due to the fact that these papers are hand marked by experienced teachers.

These competitions are open for students from Years Three to Six. There are no expectations placed upon students to compete. If you wish for your child to participate in any of the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools please complete the slip that can be found on the school website under Communication and then attachments and return it and payment to the office by Wednesday, 26th March 2014. No late entries will be considered.
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SOCCER CARNIVAL
Nominations for this carnival are now closed. Please watch this space for final details. Please note that the carnival is being held on Sunday 30th March at the University of Canberra. Details of the carnival are available on the St Thomas the Apostle Website and will be progressively updated in the lead-up to the carnival.

BELCONNEN REGION SWIMMING CARNIVAL

CAPITAL FOOTBALL 5-A-SIDE GALA DAY
Thank you to all the nominations for the Gala Day. Notes about this will be going home today.

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY
Yesterday 5th March was World Read Aloud Day. All the students at our school participated in this event to raise awareness of the educational challenges that many children in the world face. The students had a lovely time sharing a picture book or two with a buddy and it was great to hear stories coming to life in the one place and time.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORNER
Thank you to the Parent Reps that have volunteered this year. Please find below a list of parents reps for each class and their email addresses. Could you please email your class rep with your contact details so they can keep you update with important notes and events.

KD - HOLLY CAIRNS
holtup83@hotmail.com

1S - PEPE KISH
tempwarwick@hotmail.com

1F - CLAIRE CARTON
claire.carton@griffithlegal.com.au

2T - SOPHIE BARRETT
jamesophbarrett@optusnet.com.au

2W - BERNADETTE GRIFFITHS
bernadette.griffiths@communications.gov.au/bgriffiths@grapevine.net.au

3/4B - KATHRYN SANFT
Kathryn.sanft@gmai.com

3/4H - JACINTA HOULIHAN
hooligan@activ8.net.au

5/6C - CAITLYN FROST
Caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au

5/6M - TERESSA PATTERSON
teressa@bigpond.net.au

5/6P - DI NAGEL
cndnagel@aapt.net.au

Next week Joel in 5/6P and Mrs Houlihan (mother of Ari & Declan) will be participating in the World’s Greatest Shave. To support these wonderful volunteers we are asking students to bring in a gold coin to help raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. A donation box will be left at the Front Office for families to make a small donation. We thank you in anticipation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Sarah 1F, Lucy 5/6P, Phoebe 5/6M, Laura 5/6P, Clement 5/6P, Jett KD and Carina 5/6M
We hope you have a great day!
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

ST MICHAEL’S NOTICE BOARD
BOOKCLUB
Please contact Mrs Monro or Mrs Arena if you have any queries regarding Bookclub.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is carried out every Wednesday. Please leave your banking books at the Front Office.

DANCECORE
NO Dancecore for Term 1. Please call Cassie on 0417 442 750

GUITAR
Please contact Sam Strano on 0408 196 855

PIANO
Please contact Mary-Liz Partridge 0413 425 753

SPEECH & DRAMA
Tuesday lunchtimes. Please call Elizabeth McIntosh 6255 9054.

YMCA OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS
For further information, please contact the YMCA of Canberra Children’s Services Headquarters on 6242 4040 or cscanberra@ymca.org.au."
Vacancies available Monday to Thursday. Please register your interest for Fridays’ on our website www.canberra.ymca.org.au

PETER MORTON ACADEMY OF JUDO JUJITSU KARATE
Classes held in the school hall on a Thursday evening for children and adults. Please contact Peter Wilson 0412 628 450 or email: info@pjtracks.com.au

Remember if your child is unable to make a private lesson due to an excursion or illness you will need to contact the appropriate person to cancel their lesson.

CANTEEN NEWS
The Canteen has some new food items for sale this Term. We have vegetable sushi rolls available for recess and lunch for $2.50 each. We also have Banana milk as well as Chocolate and Strawberry for $1.70 each. Every Thursday there will be fresh homemade Cinnamon Scrolls for $1.20 each.

CANTEEN - Help required on all Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for 2013
Please contact Caitlyn Frost on caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Thursday: 9.30am
Liturgy of the Word
Saturday: 9am
Weekend Masses
Sunday: 8am and 5.30pm

KEEP CONNECTED WITH THE LATEST SCHOOL ALERTS AND INFORMATION
SKOOLBAG COMMUNICATION APP
Get us on your Smart Phone...
We currently have 138 users of Skoolbag. Our School has its own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. We are asking parents/ students to install our Skoolbag School App. To install it, just search for our school name "St Michaels Primary School Kaleen" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store. You can download the app for free. Please go to the Attachments section under Communication of the school website for comprehensive instructions on downloading the App.
Those who do not have a smart phone can access all the same information via the control centre for the app, available on the school’s website.

Wk 6
Wednesday  12/3  Thursday 13/3  Friday  14/3
HELP REQUIRED  Liz Segeri  Elli Paragalli, HELP REQUIRED

Wk 7
Wednesday 19/3  Thursday 20/3  Friday  21/3
Carmen Giucci  Liz Segeri  Maria Mastoris, Katrina Mihajlovic
HELP REQUIRED, HELP REQUIRED

Wednesday & Thursday: 10.00am – 2.00pm  Friday: 9.00 am – 11.30am and 11.30am – 2.00pm