**Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends**

Half way through the final term of the school year! As we move towards Advent and Christmas, the importance of this season can be overshadowed by the busyness of the ‘end of year tasks’ and physically preparing for the holiday season. It is important to also take time to prepare ourselves spiritually for the season of Christmas - slow down, take stock, reflect and prepare our hearts for Jesus at Christmas.

Next week is Family Week where we hope you are able to share some quality time together at a slower pace, when just being together is the focus and not material possessions. Have fun!

**CHANGE OF WEATHER**

Over the last few weeks we have been experiencing a move towards summer weather and we have given the students regular reminders about safety in the sun. There is sunscreen available for them at school and it is essential that they have their hats and a water bottle at school every day. I also ask you to talk to your children about their choices of play/games during this very hot weather. Choosing to run around on the oval for both breaks is possibly not the best option. Thank you for working with us to keep your children safe.

**STAFFING**

We have been very busy in the staffing area over recent weeks. One major change to announce is that Mrs Zita Clifford has stepped down from the role of RE coordinator and will continue in the part-time role of Indonesian teacher for 2015 as she pursues other activities. We thank her for her dedication to this role in her time at St Michael’s. We welcome Mr Michael Wensing to this role and to the St Michael’s community from the start of the new school year.

**KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION**

As we head towards our preparations for the Year Six graduation and farewell, we are also welcoming our newest St Michael’s members to our beautiful school. Next week our 2015 Kindergarten children will visit for two mornings, where they will meet their Mighty Mates and have a practice run at some of the routines of being at ‘big’ school. We look forward to this time with them.

**STOP WORK MEETING**

On Monday 17 November there will be a short stopwork meeting between 8.30 and 9.30am, which will be attended by some of our school staff. The meeting will be held at the school, so staff will be available for duty immediately following the meeting. There will be no interruption to the school day, as there will be adequate supervision for the children for that first hour of the day. There is no need for parents to make any adjustment to their usual routine of dropping the children to school. This message is only for your information.

**PARENT SURVEY**

A reminder that we would greatly appreciate your feedback by completing the parent survey on the survey monkey application, which is available through the link [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QV5XG9K](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QV5XG9K)

**Thought for the Week**

*Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart.*  
Carl Jung

**Yours in partnership**

Judy

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**COMING EVENTS**

- **Monday 17th November**
  - Kinder 2015 Orientation Day
  - Fire Brigade Visit
  - Kinder @ 10am

- **Tuesday 18th November**
  - Kinder 2015 Orientation Day

**Wednesday 19th November**

- Kinder 2015 Orientation Day
- Friday 21st November
  - Whole School Prayer Time
  - 2W @ 12.50pm
- Kenny Koala Visit K-Yr4

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Thursday 11th December**
  - Year 6 Graduation Mass
  - & Dinner
- **Wednesday 17th December**
  - Last day of School

**NOTES SENT HOME THIS WEEK**

- Weetbix TRYathlon notes
Harmony Happenings

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
With just 2 weeks until we begin our Advent preparation for Christmas, we are encouraging everyone to begin collecting gifts for others not as fortunate as ourselves. We are asking for donations as part of St Michael’s Parish St Vincent de Paul’s Giving Tree. The giving tree, along with donation boxes will be up soon. Our school will assemble for a Giving Mass on Thursday 4th December. Any contribution of non-perishable food or Christmas gifts for children or adults would be greatly appreciated. Please drop them off at the Front Office anytime from now until the end of Week 8.

WHOLE SCHOOL PRAYER TIME
On Tuesday the whole school community were led in a Remembrance Day Whole School Prayer Time by Kindergarten. They read and sang with great enthusiasm. Thank you to all the parents who attended.

Friday 22nd November led by Year 2W at 12.50pm.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT ST MICHAEL’S THIS TERM
Graduation Mass: Thursday 11th December @ 6pm
Our Year 6 students will celebrate their graduation with Mass.

Carols: Monday 15th December @ 5.30-7.00pm
Everyone is encouraged to come along with a picnic to share in our last community event for the year. All children are preparing their items for a Carol spectacular.

Light Ceremony: Wednesday 17th December @ 2pm
We will gather in the church for a prayer service at which the current Year 6 students will pass on the leadership to our 2015 Year 6 students.

PARENT SURVEY !!!!
Each year we ask the Parents/Guardians, the staff and the students to complete a survey about how well things are going at St Michael’s. This helps us make changes if needed and plan for the future. Your feedback is very important to us and I thank those families who have provided us with constructive feedback throughout the year.

Following the success of our Communication survey earlier in the year, we have also constructed this survey using Survey Monkey so you can complete it online. We trust this will make the process simpler and faster for you, as we would really like you to be involved and have your point of view heard. No names required. The responses will be considered in our planning, with consultation at Community Council level where appropriate. Thank you for helping us to make St Michael’s an even better school than it is already.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QV5XG9K This link will also be distributed through the Skoolbag App.

SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT PROGRAM
Our school Rules are:
Be Safe    Be Respectful    Be Responsible    Be a Learner

St Michael’s Week 6, Term 4, SWPBS focus— Be Safe!
Do I keep my hands and feet off others?

BOOKCLUB
Issue 8 for Bookclub went home last week, all orders are due back by Wednesday 26th November.

TWILIGHT FAIR
We still have some Cookie Dough and Showbags left over that we would like to sell at a reduced price.

COOKIE DOUGH ($15 per tub)
Gluten Free Chocolate Chunk
Caramel Fudge
White Chocolate Macadamia
& Doggie Dough
The cookie dough comes frozen and can be thawed and re-frozen, a tub will make approximately 50 cookies.

SHOWBAGS
Tricks & Jokes $5
Totally Girls $5
Totally Boys $5
Just an idea, the showbags would come in handy if you were planning a birthday party.

Please contact Lisa in the Front Office if you would like to purchase any of these items.
SANITARIUM WEB-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON
Your child/ren should have received a flyer about the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon today. If you would like your child to participate in this event please go to the website and register them (try.weetbix.com.au). If we have 15 or more students from St Michael’s participate in this event we could win $5,000 or a Springfree Trampoline valued at $1,200.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Kael 3/4B, Hamish 2W,
Cooper 5/6M, Patrick 5/6C
and Zoe 3/4B

We hope you have a great day!

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.

Last week’s answers and winners:
K-2:  (13 buns) Amelie 1F
Yr 3-6:  (There is no such thing as half a hole) no correct entry

Congratulations to Amelie who has received a canteen voucher.

K-2
How many sleeps from today until Christmas Day?

Year 3-6
You’re riding a horse. To the right of you is a cliff and in front of you is an elephant moving at the same pace and you can’t overtake it. To the left of you is a hippo running at the same speed and a lion is chasing you. How do you get to safety?

THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE program for parents of Adolescents will be offered by CatholicCare commencing WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 2014 from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course is run over 3 weeks and the fee of $50 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.
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

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Thursday: 9.30am
Friday: 9.00 am – 11.30am and 11.30am – 2.00pm

Liturgy of the Word
Saturday: 9am

Weekend Masses
Sunday: 8am and 5.30pm

CANTEEN NEWS
The new Summer Menu is now available. Please check the menu for new food items. The canteen will be selling freshly baked chocolate chunk cookies (gluten free) on Friday’s for $0.50 each. Sunfruit Frogs are no longer available.

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 Friday. Please fill in all details on the deposit slip and leave your banking books at the Front Office.

DANCECORE
Dancecore is on every Thursday recess. Please contact Cassie on 0417 442 750.
Forms are available from the Front Office.

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.

KEEP CONNECTED WITH THE LATEST SCHOOL ALERTS AND INFORMATION

SKOOLBAG COMMUNICATION APP
Get us on your Smart Phone...
We currently have 274 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 on 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.

CANTEEN - Help required on all Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for 2014
Please contact Caitlyn Frost on caitlyn.frost@cg.catholic.edu.au

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