Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Community - represented by the root and the suffix of the word (common-unity). Community is a group of individuals connected to each other by one or more attribute(s). As human beings, we need a sense of belonging, and that sense of belonging is what connects us to the many relationships we develop. Community is where we find comfort in difficult times.

As we prepare for and dive into these final weeks of the term, we will busily race from one event to another. Emotions are often heightened and our patience is shortened. I ask that you: take a moment to consider your intentions; prioritise what is really important by taking stock and looking after yourself; remember that support is available if you need it; be aware of others around you; and take a moment to be still and breathe!

Earlier this week a letter was sent home to inform you of Judy’s absence over the coming weeks. Judy is now recovering from surgery and we ask for your healing prayers at this time.

COMMUNICATION
The students at St Michael’s are the core focus for all staff. We aim to do our very best to ensure that their wellbeing, safety and needs are catered for. If there is an important or urgent issue with your child, please inform the classroom teacher. In the event that the information needs to be distributed to all staff or the classroom teacher is absent, please also contact a member of the leadership team so that we can assist in keeping open lines of communication. Thank you for your ongoing support in enabling us to cater for the needs of all students at St Michael’s.

STAFFING
Following our recent interview process, I congratulate Miss Cassandra Halls on her appointment to the temporary teaching position, replacing Mrs Hardwicke who will be on extended leave during 2017. Cassandra is a graduate teacher who will bring great enthusiasm and passion to her new role.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Nominations for the School Community Council officially closed yesterday. It was encouraging to see fresh faces put their hands up to be involved. We have currently received three nominations, to fill the three open memberships. Therefore, we do not require a voting process. I would like to thank and congratulate our new members: Gabriel Walsh (Jemima & Cameron), Mia Taylor (Austin & Jordan) and Anna Lutz (Bailey & Jackson) who is returning to the Council for her second term. We look forward to exciting changes and ideas next year.

The Community Council held the final 2016 meeting last Tuesday evening. We wish to thank Nicole Dwight for her committed contribution to the Council and the school community over the past 6 years. We also wish Belinda Larner well as her family embarks overseas, returning in 2017.

HARMONY TWILIGHT FAIR
The Community Council wish to thank the school community for donating their time, talents and resources, at this year’s Fair. After paying the final bills, we are now able to announce that we very successfully raised approximately $13,000. Earlier in the year, the Council asked for your suggestions and priorities for spending in 2016. They will again consult with the school community early next year to set a focus and target for 2017 spending. Well done and thank you for your contribution.

SCHOOL FEES
Just as your electricity account or your phone bill have a due date, unfortunately so do school fees. (This is to ensure we can also pay our electricity and phone bills on time and continue to provide your children’s education needs.) Reminders for Term Four fees (and any other outstanding amounts) have been sent home this week. I ask that you check your statement and ask the following questions: Can I ensure my account balance is zero by the end of term? Are my direct debit payments keeping pace with the fees? Have I taken additional costs for camp or swimming into account? If your child is in Year Six and your family will be leaving St Michael’s this year, please ensure that your account is paid in full before Week 10 (16th December). Thank you for your attention to this aspect of our partnership. Please contact me should you need to discuss this arrangement.

Yours in partnership,

Breen Fox
Acting Principal

“Few people are mind readers. Let them know they matter.” Dr. Chris Peterson
VOLLEYBALL
The students have had another cracking session of volleyball this week. At the conclusion of these sessions there will be an offer for your child to participate in volleyball during a lunch time in Term 1 next year. If you would like your child to participate in this, please watch out for further information which will be coming home shortly.

SHOWBAGS
We still have some showbags left over from the Twilight Fair, please see Lisa in the Front Office if you would like to purchase any bags. We have the Smarties Bag, Kit Kat Bag and Bertie Bettle bag which we are selling for $5 each.

STARTSMART
On Monday and Tuesday this week, classes in Years 1-6 participated in the STARTMART Finance Program, facilitated by Commonwealth Bank. Students were led through lessons on currency, budgeting, savings, spending and investing. Once again, this free resource has been a valuable addition to our Maths units on money and financial mathematics.

PICK UP FRIDAY 18th NOVEMBER
Please be aware that there may be congestion and alternate arrangements for pick up on Friday afternoon. There is a wedding scheduled at St Michael’s Church at 1:30. We are unable to predict the exact conclusion time of the wedding and the amount of cars that will be parked on the school basketball courts. Please also be conscious that visitors to our Parish may not be aware of the carpark routines and road rules. We will send a Skoolbag notification closer to pick up time if alternate arrangements are required.

OUTREACH
Our talented Yr 1/2 performers have been out and about in the community again, this time singing at Kalparrin Care Facility in Holt. On Wednesday, students travelled by bus to entertain residents with songs that they have been learning in their music program. This is 1/2’s second outreach excursion in the community and the feedback students have provided demonstrate this opportunity as an invaluable experience. Congratulations to the students for representing St Michael’s with pride and care.

SCHOOL DISCO: FRIDAY 25th NOVEMBER (Week 7)
Have you got your dancing shoes ready? The junior disco will run from 5:00-6:00pm, followed by the senior disco at 6:30-8:00pm. If you are available to distribute chips and drinks, supervise, sell treats or even to sweep the floor at the end of the night, please return the volunteer slip to the front office, or email Rachelle Clark shellandrew1@bigpond.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Sienna 1/2S, Mehtaab & Mohkam 5/6M & Charlize KD
We hope you have a great day!

GIVING MASS
Kindergarten are leading our Giving Mass on the 6th December at 9:30am in the Church. All are welcome to join us. In the lead up to our Giving Mass we are asking families to donate, if you can, any of the following items:
• Toys - not wrapped
• Non Perishable festive type foods.
Members of St Michael’s Parish will collect all our donations and create hampers for those in need. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

PARISH THANKSGIVING MASS
The St Michael’s community are invited to attend the Parish Thanksgiving Mass and celebration on 8th December. Mass will begin at 6:00pm, followed by pizza, drinks and great company in the Church grounds. All welcome.

HARMONY AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who will receive a Harmony Award at tomorrow’s assembly:
KD: Finley, Madison, Austin & Kobe
1/2H: Arna, Jayla, Joey, Matilda, Samuel & Samara
1/2S: Jillian, Will & Adam
3/4B: Kiara, Sienna, Bailey & Shakira
3/4F: Levi, Bailey, Daniel, Pearl, Milly & Sofia
3/4W: Daniela, Ana, Tayla & Isaac
5/6M: Mason, Mohkam & Isabella
5/6P: Chloe, James & Ilijana

THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE
Program for parents of Adolescents will be offered by CatholicCare commencing Wednesday 30th November 2016 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 School Years 5+6 and Secondary School Years 7-12.
Bookings are essential please contact 1800 068 698 free call

IMPORTANT CANTEEN INFORMATION
We require your help! If you are able to volunteer for the Term 4 Canteen Roster, please contact Lisa on 62414022. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday 18th November (Week 6)
9-11.30 11.30-2
Kiran Grewal Eileen Wood
HELP REQUIRED HELP REQUIRED
Friday 25th November (Week 7)
9-11.30 11.30-2
HELP REQUIRED Pepe Kish
HELP REQUIRED HELP REQUIRED