Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

This week, students from Year 4 and Year 6 posted random acts of kindness in our school entrance, on walkways, in library books and doorways. Students offered free compliments, positive thoughts and words of encouragement to reach out to others in our community.

“All children have needs to both receive kindness and to give kindness; to be noticed and to recognise others; to be appreciated and to appreciate others. Opportunities to act kindly are opportunities to meet each of these needs” http://simpleacts.org/pass-it-on.php

It was encouraging and inspiring to see students taking a compliment and passing it on to another student or going out of their way to demonstrate kindness to someone simply because the initiative motivated them to do so. Kindness can be contagious.

SUNSMART: SKIN CANCER ACTION WEEK

This week the Cancer Council reminds Australians to be SunSmart by following five important steps to sun protection: slip, slop, slap, seek and slide. Cancer Council research released on the 20th November 2016 shows fewer Australians are using hats to protect themselves from the sun and, as a result, are getting sunburnt on their face, head, nose or ears. This latest data shows that over 640,000 Australians have stopped wearing a hat to protect themselves when exposed to UV and in total almost 10.6 million Australians don’t wear a hat when out in the sun. Students are reminded that their school hat is a part of their uniform and is required before and after school, and during break times. Students without a hat are seated in the shade for play time, for their own protection.

UNIFORM

This timely information about hats leads me to remind families about all aspects of our school uniform. I have observed a growing number of inconsistencies, including: sneakers being worn with the school uniform, black or coloured socks, no socks, incorrect earrings, nail polish, coloured hair ties and brightly coloured sneakers. In the event that an alternate item of clothing is required to temporarily replace the school uniform, please provide a note to your classroom teacher to let them know when the situation will be rectified. Thank you for your assistance in promoting school spirit and pride in our school.

SCHOOL FEE SCHEDULE 2017

The school fee schedule for 2017 was recently passed by the School Community Council. The Catholic Education Commission and Catholic Education tuition fees and the Building Fund contribution reflect the usual small increase for 2017. To help us to maintain pace with the rising costs of the essential services in the school, the School Council approved small increases in both the Operation and Excursion Levies. A copy of the schedule for 2017 will be attached to the newsletter today, to allow you some time to make any adjustments that are required to direct debits and other payment schedules. I sincerely thank you for your continued support of our school and for honouring your commitment through the consistent payment of the fees. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Lisa if you have any questions.

OPEN CLASSROOMS: WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER

The Open Classroom component of the reporting process allows the students to showcase their work for their parents. It is a time to celebrate achievements and growth and acknowledge any areas for development, from the students’ viewpoint. Current teaching methods mean many aspects of the children’s work are not always contained in a book. Please come along to your child’s classroom and spend some time, with your child guiding you through their learning. Your child’s report should reflect what you see. Hoping to see you next Wednesday between 3 - 6 pm.

Yours in partnership,

Breen Fox
Acting Principal

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted” Aesop
SPORTS NEWS
Congratulations to Amelia in 5/6P for participating in the Junior Tour de Femme last weekend. The race rode along Parkes Way and Amelia secured third place. She was awarded a cash prize and a new cycling jersey. Go girl!

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.

WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS NATIVITY CONCERT
In light of the busyness at this time of year and the importance of celebrating Jesus’ birth story, St Michael’s have amalgamated the carols picnic and this year’s school concert. This year, all students will participate in retelling the nativity story, through song and drama. Our Year 6 students will perform the major roles in the concert, supported by each class throughout the play. Families are invited to bring along a picnic to enjoy the show. A sausage sizzle, light refreshments and Christmas craft will be also be available for sale. The concert begins at 5:30pm in the school courtyard. We look forward to celebrating with your family.

BOOKCLUB
Issue 8 is due back tomorrow, this is the last issue for this year. Thank you to all the families for supporting Scholastic Bookclub. All your purchases this year have awarded points to the school and the library has been able to obtain free books for the student’s enjoyment.

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.

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 Beetle bag which we are selling for $5 each.

SCHOOL DISCO: TOMORROW, FRIDAY 25th NOVEMBER
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 assist on the night, please return the volunteer slip to the front office, or email Rachelle Clark shellandrew1@bigpond.com.
- All students will receive a packet of chips and drink with their ticket.
- Lollies will be available for sale at the Canteen.
- The cost of the Disco is $5 for the Juniors and $6 for the seniors.

REPORTS
Reports will be sent home with your child next Friday 2nd December. If your child is absent, their report will be posted on Friday afternoon, unless alternate arrangements are made between the parents and teachers. Optional parent/teacher interviews are then available in Week 9. If you wish to make an appointment, please contact your teacher directly via phone or email to schedule a time. If you have changed address recently, now is a good time to update your details.

SHOWCASE ASSEMBLY: FRIDAY 9th DECEMBER @ 12:50
Students from a range of classes will showcase some of their talents in Week 9. The assembly will take place at the regular time and will include performances on piano, guitar and dance. Students who have been participating in private lessons with Mary Liz, Sam and Dancecore will demonstrate a snippet of what they have been learning this year. All welcome.

SCHOOL BANKING
Tomorrow is the last day for school banking for this year. If you have any tokens that you would like to claim prizes, please bring them in tomorrow.
Thank you to Mrs Firth for volunteering to process the banking, we appreciate your help and support.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Phillip 1/2H, Ben 3/4B, Frazer 1/2S, Chloe 5/6P, Declan 5/6M and Isabella 5/6M
We hope you have a great day!