**HARMONY HAPPENINGS**

Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Catholic Schools Week 2012 is being held in Week One of Term Two (29 April to 5 May) and this year will include more than 611 Catholic primary and secondary schools across NSW and the ACT, involving about 264,000 students. The main aim of CSW is to raise awareness and celebrate the history, strength and distinctiveness of Catholic schools while we plan for the continued future of Catholic Education. The theme for CSW 2012 is ‘Faith in Every Student’. This year's theme expresses the central aim of Catholic Schools – to ensure that each student has the opportunity to grow academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally. Catholic schools celebrate diversity and provide an education for each child that recognises their individual abilities, gifts and interests.

To celebrate CSW in 2012, St Michael’s will again open our doors to invited guests and our families as we celebrate and share a community breakfast on Wednesday 2nd May. More information including invitations and details will be on our website and in newsletters over the coming weeks. We look forward to a great celebration in this our 30th year of quality education.

**3-WAY CONFERENCES – Week 9**

If we are to work in partnership for the benefit of your children, then regular, open communication is imperative. Three Way Conferences are being held next week, on Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th April 2012. Please note that 3/4RB will do their Three-Way Conferences in Week 10, Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th April 2012. The online booking for 3 Way Conferences closed today Thursday 29 March 2012. If you have not booked a time for you and your child to attend the Three Way Conferences please contact Lisa Monro on 62414022 to book your time. Times for meetings will be confirmed by the teachers on Friday 30th March (tomorrow). Workbooks will also be sent home on Friday, but MUST be returned on Monday. All other books and classroom projects can be viewed during and after your meeting time.

It is most important that you put some time aside for this conference. The focus of this meeting is a time of affirmation for your child, and of goal-setting for the rest of the semester or year, highlighting how both parents and teachers will assist the child’s own efforts to achieve their goals. Please remember this is not a time for parents to raise issues or concerns about their child’s learning – a separate parent/teacher interview time should be arranged for this purpose if necessary.

**MORE PARENTING TIPS FOR RAISING EXCEPTIONAL KIDS** - from Michael Grose

**MAKE THE MOST OF THE OPPORTUNITY YEARS (BEFORE TEENS) WORK ON YOUR RELATIONSHIPS AS THEY GIVE YOU LEVERAGE EXPECT KIDS TO BEHAVE WELL CATCH KIDS BEING RESILIENT AND PERSISTENT**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORNER**

Thanks to a Community Council Executive decision, approval has been granted for the purchase of a wall-mounted television screen for the front foyer of the school. This will be used to display photos of school events; messages of importance; and even students work where appropriate. This is a wonderful use of some of the funds raised by you, the St Michael’s families, at the Twilight Fair last year and we thank you for this decision. Keep watching for this change over the next couple of weeks!

Yours in ongoing partnership

Judy

**COMING EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 30th March</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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<td>3 Way Conferences</td>
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<td>Monday 2nd April</td>
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<td>Holy Thursday</td>
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<td>Prayer Service</td>
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<td>Years 3—6, 2.00pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10th April</td>
<td>Easter Prayer Celebration</td>
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<td>Kinder—Year 2</td>
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<td>Friday 13th April</td>
<td>Showcase Assembly</td>
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<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<td>Notes coming home this week:</td>
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<td>- Holiday Happenings</td>
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<td>- Year 6 College Orientation</td>
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<td>Day note</td>
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Harmony Happenings

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST MICHAEL’S

As the Lenten Season draws to a close, we are asked to reflect on how we have made our Lenten journey a practical one. One way was through the Project Compassion appeal boxes that were sent home to each family. Have you been able to make a contribution in this way? Please send back the filled boxes as soon as possible, so we can all make a difference in the lives of others.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday which marks the beginning of Holy Week. I encourage you to participate in the celebration of Palm Sunday through attendance at Mass this weekend. Year 3 will lead our school community into Holy Week with their Whole School Prayer tomorrow at 12.30pm. As we move into Holy Week, we will come together for a Prayer Service on Holy Thursday where the children will follow the path of Jesus from the Palm Sunday procession to the Crucifixion. We will begin straight after lunch at 2pm; starting from the hall and moving through other areas of our school grounds (weather permitting). We will be emphasising the solemnity of these events in our expectations that the children remain quiet during each section and whilst moving. You are very welcome to join us for this service.

The joy of the Resurrection will be celebrated with a prayer service on Tuesday 10th April when we return after the Easter break.

EUCHARIST PROGRAM

The Eucharist program began formally in class this week. Thank you to all the families who have attended both the Commitment Masses last weekend and the Family Group sessions, which have provided a wonderful home school connection for this Sacrament preparation. Feedback from the group sessions has been positive, so we look forward to the second session to be held in Week 2 Term 2. Please ensure that all paperwork for Eucharist is in by next week (Week 9).

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2012

Advance notice for our Sacramental dates for 2012

- Eucharist - Sunday 3rd June
- Confirmation - Sunday 12th August, 11am
- Reconciliation - Thursday 8th November

Specific details will be sent directly to the classes involved.

All families are always welcome to attend these community celebrations.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

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 form attached to this newsletter email or contact the Front Office. Forms and payment need to be returned to the Front Office by Friday, 6th April 2012. Unfortunately, NO late entries can be considered.

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

EARTH HOUR: Earth hour is on this Saturday night 31st March at 8.30pm. We encourage all families to get involved by switching off lights. Please check the website for more details or other ideas: www.wwf.org.au/Earthhour

Earth Hour 2012
BELCONNEN REGION SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Last Friday 23rd March, 15 students represented St Michael’s at the Belconnen Region Swimming carnival held at the AIS. The students all swam very well. A huge thank you to Donna Wilks and Lisa Bryan who volunteered to assist on the day.

ST MICHAEL’S CROSS COUNTRY
On Tuesday 3rd April, St Michael’s will be holding the cross country carnival. Thank you to the parents who have returned the note that was sent home asking for assistance. We always appreciate any parent help. The cross country will begin at 9.30am and we are hoping to finish by 12.00pm.

BELCONNEN REGION GIRLS AND BOYS SOCCER TRIALS
Trials for the Belconnen 12Yrs & Under Girls and Boys Soccer teams to play on Friday 1st June, 2012 at the ACT Soccer primary school championships will be held on Friday 30th March & Thursday 12 April 2012 from 4.00 – 5:00pm at Radford. Please see Miss Pelle if you are interested. Each student will need to collect a note to bring to the trials.

BELCONNEN REGION BOYS AFL TRIALS
Trials for the Belconnen 12Yrs & Under Boys AFL teams to play on Monday 7th May, 2012 at the ACT AFL primary school championships will be held on Monday 2nd & Wednesday 4th April, 2012 from 4.00 – 5:30pm at Kaleen Primary School oval. Please see Miss Pelle if you are interested. Each student will need to collect a note to bring to the trials.

BELCONNEN REGION BOYS RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS
Trials for the Belconnen 12Yrs & Under Boys Rugby League teams to play on Friday 18th May, 2012 at the ACT Rugby League primary school championships will be held on Wednesday April 11 and Thursday May 5 2012 from 4.00 – 5:00pm at Aranda Oval- Banaga Place (near Aranda Primary). Please see Miss Pelle if you are interested. Each student will need to collect a note to bring to the trials.

Till next edition, stay healthy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthday this week: Charlotte 3/4RB, Joseph 1/2H, Tali 4M and Tom 4M.

We hope you have a great day!

HARMONY AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students that received Harmony Awards last Friday:

KP: Patrick D & James B
1/2H: Jemma P & Izabella S
1/2SM: Audrey O & James L
3/4RB: Matthew P & Danielle K
4M: Georgina R & Thomas R
6H: Luis D, Rose W, Chantelle K & Adhitya B

ST MICHAEL’S DISCO TOMORROW FRIDAY 30TH MARCH 2012

Kinder to Year 2  5pm-6pm  $3 entry
Year 3 to Year 6  6.30pm-8pm  $4 entry

Soft drinks, chips and glow in the dark items for sale from $1. No children will be allowed to leave the hall until an adult collects them.

A big thank you to all the parents that have volunteered to help at the disco.
St Michael’s Parish  Contact Details and Mass Times
Parish Priest:  Father Peter HA, N. Doai
Address:  Tyrrell Circuit, Kaleen, ACT  2617
Telephone:  (02) 6241 3364  Fax:  (02) 6241 0747
Email:  stm.kaleen@cg.catholic.org.au
Weekend Mass Times:  Saturday:  6.00pm, Sunday:  9.00am and 5.30pm

LOST PROPERTY
Please check all your children’s clothing to ensure that they are labelled and that you don’t have another child’s clothing item. In Week 10 all lost property items will be on display at the Front Office, any items not claimed will be given to the 2nd Hand clothing pool or to charity.
I also have quite a few lunch boxes and drink bottles at the Front Office.

ST MICHAEL’S NOTICE BOARD

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

DANCECORE
Every WEDNESDAY lunchtime. Call Cassie 0417 442 750

GUITAR
Please contact Sam Strano 0408 196 855

PIANO
Please contact Mary-Liz Patridge 0413 425 753

SPEECH & DRAMA
Please call Elizabeth McIntosh on 6255 9054.

YMCA OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS
After School Care is offered to St Michael’s by the YMCA; they now operate Monday to Friday from 3pm to 6pm. For a casual or permanent booking please phone 6230 0165 or Email: oshc.admin@ymca.org.au

BOOKCLUB
Thank you for all of the orders placed in the first issue of Bookclub for 2012. Catalogues for Issue 2 were sent home last week. In order for books to be delivered before the end of Term 1 orders must be placed with the school by tomorrow Friday 30th March 2012. Please remember that from Term 1 the oldest child in each family will receive one of every Bookclub order form rather than each child receiving forms appropriate for their age. Orders should be returned to the front office. If you have any questions about Bookclub please contact me on 0449 697 871.
Kind Regards. Penelope Malu - Bookclub Coordinator.

IMPORTANT
If your child has a private lesson booked and is unable to attend due to illness or a school excursion, could you please contact the appropriate person to enable them to reschedule your lesson and also to accommodate another student

CAKEEN - Call Maria Cavalli on 6241 5780 or e-mail cavalli@grapevine.com.au to join the canteen team. Help still needed on some days.

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<tr>
<th>Wk 9</th>
<th>Wednesday 4/4</th>
<th>Thursday 5/4</th>
<th>Friday 6/4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cristina Simoncini</td>
<td>Jeanette Jelfs</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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<th>Wednesday 11/4</th>
<th>Thursday 12/4</th>
<th>Friday 13/4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Juliet Zeiler</td>
<td>Leanne Cotter</td>
<td>Amanda Barry, Natalie Modric, Melissa Scarlett</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Penelope Malu, Katrina Mihajlovic</td>
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Wednesday & Thursday: 10.50am – 1.30pm  Friday:  9.00 am – 11.15am and 11.15am – 1.45pm