Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

Thought for the week

‘Children must be taught how to think, not what to think’. Margaret Mead, cultural anthropologist

This week I have started with this quote, as it states very clearly the way we need to approach education to ensure our students are equipped for the future. There are many ways we are doing this. The prospect of introducing a BYOD (Bring your own Device) program for St Michael’s in 2017 (for Yrs 5 & 6 initially) was another option that was proposed at the open Council meeting earlier this year. Considerable background work has occurred over recent months, including the significant upgrade of cabling and other infrastructure. Now it is time to obtain some relevant information from you. This will potentially impact on ALL families over the next few years, so we invite all families to be involved in the next steps:

- A request that Parents /Guardians complete a very short survey (the link below will take you there) by Sunday 26th June
  https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1asjtpTOp9jHygig6M2qXAhlhY0aC31lSxeN52bWKDvo/viewform
- An open meeting for parents on Tuesday 28th June at 6pm, Week 10 (to present background information; respond to the survey results; answer any further questions – or follow up if necessary).

We really need your input for this very important step to be successful. Thank you in anticipation.

OPEN CLASSROOMS

Next Wednesday 22nd June you will have the opportunity to visit your child’s classroom between 3.15 – 6pm to view their books and their displayed work. This is an important component of the school’s reporting process, as what you view in the classroom should provide physical support for what will be in the written report to be sent home in week 10. We appreciate that the format of the formal report does not allow for detailed explanation of your child’s achievements, so it is important you see them first hand and get your child’s explanation of what they have produced.

We hope to see you here next week.

Please remember this is not designed to be a parent/teacher interview. Many of you have already been contacted by your children’s teachers in our aim that the report should contain no surprises. Should you wish to discuss a particular aspect of your child’s education, you are always welcome to make an appointment with the teacher.

STAFFING 2017

The CEO will soon be requiring details of projected numbers for 2017 for staffing purposes. Hence, we need to know of any families who are seeking enrolment for their children at another school in 2017, for whatever reason (this does not include year 6 students). Please email the school office if your child/ren will not be returning to St Michael’s in 2017.

GRANDPARENTS’ AND GOOD FRIENDS’ DAY

Grandparents’ and Good Friends’ Day was celebrated on Friday 10th June. Thank you to the Grandparents’ and Good Friends’ who were able to join us, especially those who travelled. We loved having you here. The Prayer Service, led by 1/2H, was a lovely celebration of why Grandparents’ and Good Friends’ are special. Both songs that were sung by K-2 and Y3-Y6 bought tears to the eyes of many.

BUS TURNING BAY

Please remember that the turn around circle next to the oval is not for parking; please obey the signs. If you leave your car in this area the bus is unable to use this section of the road to successfully turn around and pick up the children waiting for the bus. Thank you for your assistance with this.

HEATING LUNCHES

The staff are unable to heat lunches for students or make up noodles with boiling water for safety reasons. Food can be heated at home and brought in to school in thermos flasks.

Yours in partnership

Judy
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL SAVE THE DATE
St Michael’s Athletics Carnival is being held next Thursday 23rd June (weather permitting!). A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help out on the day. You should receive information about this today.

Hopefully if your child would like to have a sausage sizzle on the day this note has made its way back to school. Mrs Monro may be feeling generous about accepting these notes tomorrow ;)

Thank you for your assistance with getting these notes back to school so that we can order the right amount of food and drinks for lunch on the day.

If you would like your child to be considered for the regional carnival in the long and/or high jump events, please send in their distance/heights from a certified long/high jump coach or official.

There will be a canteen open at recess and lunch selling some exciting treats. A menu will be sent out early next week through your PRN. Thank you to Belinda Larner for taking the lead with this.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NETBALL CARNIVAL
At this stage we will definitely have a 3/4 team. Unfortunately, we currently do not have enough registration forms to put a 5/6 or Year 2 team into this carnival at this stage.

If you would like your child to participate in this event, please send the player registration form along with the $25 back to school ASAP. Thank you.

ACT CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
Congratulations to Austin (5/6M) who represented the Belconnen Region at this carnival on Tuesday. He came 12th in his event. What an awesome achievement! Well done Austin.

K-2 SWIMMING
If you have a child (or children) in Kinder, Year 1 or Year 2 you will soon be receiving a swimming note from them. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please fill in all the required information and send the notes back to school.

QKR UPDATE
QKR has been updated and is hopefully now easier to use. There is an information sheet attached to the newsletter email explaining the changes. If you are having any difficulty or have any suggestions with QKR, please let Lisa know to enable them to be rectified.

ROSTRUM
We wish Kael in 5/6M the best of luck as he heads to the Rostrum Quarter Finals at St Monica’s on Monday 20th June. He will compete against seven other finalists from the Belconnen region. Kael will present his speech on the topic of ‘I need more time!’ and it will definitely be a race to the finish line. Good luck!

2016 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
New books are available at the Front Office or order online at https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/232g38. Only 2 books left!!!