Dear St Michael’s Families and Friends

It is easy to love the people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us. It is easier to give a cup of rice to relieve hunger than to relieve the loneliness and pain of someone unloved in our own home. Bring love into your home for this is where our love for each other must start.” Mother Teresa

What a wonderful message from the recently canonised Saint Teresa of Calcutta, to share with all our children. As our Year Three students begin their journey to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we all need to be reminded of what forgiveness really is – it is an expression of Love.

- Forgive others is always hard to do when you are still feeling hurt. It takes courage – not just a warm, fuzzy feeling, to decide to forgive someone. In fact, forgiving someone shows strength of character, not weakness. By forgiving someone, you are not saying that what the other person did is okay; but rather, that you have decided not to hold it against him/her. It may seem unfair to just let someone off without making them ‘pay’ for what they did. That is why it takes a special kind of love, like the love of God, to forgive.

- Forgiveness is not a feeling: it is a decision – a choice you have to make.

- God can help you forgive others. Ask Him to fill your heart with His love.

- Go to the person you need to forgive and tell them what made you feel sad or hurt; then let the person know that you have forgiven them.

- Forgiving someone may not take the hurt away immediately. It also won’t take away the memory of what happened. You may still feel sad or hurt for a while.

In our Christian environment we teach children about forgiveness; the endless forgiveness that God offers, as well as the day-to-day forgiveness that we offer them. As parents and teachers, we must ask; Do we insist that they show forgiveness to others? Do we model forgiveness to our children in our dealings with them and others? Does forgiveness go hand in hand with love in our homes? Left to ourselves perhaps forgiveness is not possible, but with God, all things are made possible.

Please keep the Year Three students and their families in your prayers.

FATHER’S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Despite the pouring rain last Friday, a good afternoon was had by all. Dads and their children shared board games, stories and Maths activities in the library, while others played balloon volleyball and handball in the hall. Thank you to the families who were able to share in this community event and to the mums and staff who assisted with set up and pack up. We hope you all had a wonderful Father’s Day on Sunday!

A quote for your consideration:
"Everytime you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing." Mother Teresa

Yours in partnership
Judy

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

TOMORROW
9/6/16  K-2 Swimming

NEXT WEEK
11/9/16  Reconciliation Commitment Mass
12/9/16  Peer Support
16/9/16  Kinder Assembly @ 12.50
18/9/16  Parish Celebration @ 10am

COMING UP
20/9/16  Whole School Excursion & Pie Day
22/9/16  Kinder Farm Excursion
21/10/16  Boorowa Touch & Netball Carnival
28/10/16  St Michael’s Harmony Fair
9/11/16  Sacrament of Reconciliation

NOTES GONE HOME THIS WEEK
- Catholic Voice
- St Michael’s Feast Day invitation
- Year 1 and 2 Excursion Note
- Mick the Star order forms
- Ride Wrist Band order forms

FRED HOLLOWS HUMANITY AWARD

Last Thursday, Joe 5/6M was presented with the Fred Hollows Humanity Award. Joe consistently makes positive contributions to his school community. He provides an exemplary model for his fellow classmates by showing responsibility and dedication when fulfilling his leadership duties. We congratulate Joe on his award.

ACT ELECTION

As we move towards the ACT Election in October, I will present, for your consideration, some relevant facts regarding the financial situation for Catholic Schooling in the ACT.

DID YOU KNOW?

This is what Governments provide for students in the ACT:

Child in an ACT Government School: $14,447
Child in an ACT Catholic School: $9,176

Catholic Schools – Partners in Canberra’s Future

Canberra Catholic Schools
St Michael’s Primary School
Kaleen
ACT  2617
Phone: 6241 4022  Fax: 6241 4803
Email: office.stmichaelsps@cg.catholic.edu.au

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 9th September (Week 8)
Ellen Arena  HELP REQUIRED
Pepe Kish  HELP REQUIRED
Jo McGrath  HELP REQUIRED

Friday 16th September (Week 9)
9-11.30  11.30-2
Jo McGrath  Pepe Kish

HELP REQUIRED  HELP REQUIRED  HELP REQUIRED

At this stage, the canteen will be closed for counter service at lunch tomorrow as we do not have volunteers.
K-2 SWIMMING
Thank you for your support during this two week program. The children have learnt some valuable new skills and have also had some practise at putting life jackets on and rescuing each other. They have had a great time, but are also extremely tired now! Hopefully the weekend will give them an opportunity to rest and recover for the last two weeks of Term Three.
If you have any questions or comments about this program please don’t hesitate to contact me (Mary de Smet) by email, on the phone, or even in person ;)

SPORTING SCHOOLS
We have applied for this grant for Term 4. Hopefully we will be successful and will be able to have some sporting clinics with this funding next term. Watch this space for more information about this.

Mini Vinnies is hosting a cupcake stall on Wednesday 21st September (Week 10). We are asking for donations of cupcakes either home-made or bought for the stall.
The cupcakes will be sold by Mini Vinnies members for $1 at recess and lunch, while stocks last! All proceeds will be donated to the Cancer Council. If you have any questions please see Miss Frogley, Mrs Whalan or Ms Swan. Mini Vinnies appreciates your assistance in either donating or eating cupcakes or both!!!

ST MICHAEL’S FEAST DAY, PARISH CELEBRATIONS
Please join us to celebrate St Michael’s Day at mass on Sunday 18th September. This year’s St Michael’s Day celebration is extra special as 2016 marks 40 years since the inception of our parish. Please stay to celebrate after mass with a brunch/morning tea to be held in the school hall.
Bring a plate and mingle with current and former students, parents and parishioners of St Michael’s. If you have any questions or are able to contribute to the catering. Please contact Nicole Dwight on 0412115903.

ASTHMA WEEK: 1-7 September
Take the Asthma Control Test to find out your asthma control score at www.asthmaaustralia.org.au
For asthma information and support call 1800 ASTHMA Helpline (1800 278 462). Asthma sufferers are being encouraged to get on top of their hay fever this season to control their asthma symptoms.

ATHLETES FOOT SHOE LACE TYING
KD, 1/2H and 1/2S all participated in the Athlete’s Foot Shoe Lace Tying program on Tuesday. Each student received a pack to take home and keep practising!

KIDSMATTER SURVEY
This is a reminder to have your say on the mental health and wellbeing of students at St Michael’s, through the KidsMatter survey link. So far, only 8 of our 128 families have responded. The survey closes at the end of September.
www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey
You will need to:
1. Find your school: St Michael’s Kaleen
2. Select the reporting period: Q3 July-Sept
3. Select the main language spoken at home
4. Select the year level your child is in (nominate one)

BIKES
A number of children rode to school last week and were caught out by the rainy weather, having to leave their bikes at school. Multiple bikes were then left in the bike rack and discovered by Sr Kate over the weekend, exposed and not secured. In the event that your child has to leave their bike at school, please notify us so that we can assist to secure them overnight. Students should also use bike locks as this area is not supervised during the day. Students are reminded that they must not enter the bike rack area unless they have a bike stored there.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Special wishes to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:
Cameron KD, Giulio 5/6M and Orla 1/2H
We hope you have a great day!

CLASS COOKING
The 1/2 classes have been participating in cooking lessons over the past 3 weeks, discussing healthy choices, healthy messages and learning about the nutrition in food. This week’s delicious recipe was Yo-Crunch!

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
Next week is the final week of practicum for our student teachers, Miss Harrop in 3/4B and Miss Heenan 3/4F. During next week, both teachers will have the opportunity to visit and teach in different classes around the school. We congratulate them on completing their final field experience.

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOW UP – THIS WEEKS TIPS FOR YOUNG USERS:
• Only download apps from the official stores, such as Apple’s App Store or the Android marketplace. Illegitimate app stores or app websites may contain pirated apps or malicious software (malware).
• Research or download the apps, games and websites your child uses so that you become familiar with how they work. The ThinkUknow website has lots of tips for apps.
• Before you download and install an app, check which features of your device (such as the GPS function) the app wants permission to access. Disable any features which are unnecessary for the app to access.
• Check the classification, as these can be a good indication as to whether the content and functionality is suitable for children. Be aware that classifications are sometimes set by game or app developers and not independently assessed.
• Many apps contain in-app purchases which can lead to a hefty bill if you or your children aren’t careful. It is a good idea to disable in-app purchases.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
Harmony Fair Update

If you have any capacity to volunteer, organise an event, to get your dance or judo troop on the stage, to assist with First Aid, to donate a prize, know someone that would like to hold a stall, or if you have an idea that you want to pursue, then let us know.

Contact us on our email—harmonyfaircoordinators@gmail.com

Please like ‘St Michael's Harmony Fair’ on Facebook to show your support for the fair and our sponsors.

Our new option to pay through Qkr will make your life easier for this Fair!
When the time comes, you will be able to pay for wrist bands; Mick the star; raffle tickets; and any new innovations that are introduced for this Fair.

Download the app now so you are ready:) Details for this are available on our website under attachments.

ST MICHAEL’S HARMONY FAIR 2016 RAFFLE
A book of Raffle tickets went home last week for families to sell. This year’s prizes include:
1st Prize: $1000 cash
2nd Prize: $400 cash
3rd Prize: Sage Restaurant Voucher ($250)
4th Prize: Akiba Restaurant Voucher ($200)
If you are unable to sell your tickets, please return them to the school as soon as possible.

Thanks to our Fair Sponsors so far...