Term 3 Week 3, 2 August 2016

Principal's Report

Dear Parents & Friends,

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Open Night. We had a very healthy attendance and we enjoyed displaying all the great things that our school has to offer. I also offer my thanks to all of our hardworking staff who attended the night and contributed to the various presentations. If anyone has any further questions about our school, please be aware that they are always welcome to contact me with those questions.

Please find attached to this newsletter a summary of information for parents enrolling children in 2017 Kindergarten. Note that pre-enrolment interviews for pupils of 2017 Kindergarten will be held in Week 5 & 6 of this term. Bookings can be made on SOBS.

We will be running our Gymnastics Program over the last 5 weeks of the Term. A more detailed permission and information note has been sent home today.

Our Year 3 class will celebrate First Holy Communion on Sunday, 18th September at the 9am Parish Mass, at our St. Michael’s Church.

Parents of Year two students please note the date set down for First Reconciliation—20 September, 7.30pm.

This Term we will be running a singing program for Year’s 3-6 here at St Michael’s as part of a Diocesan wide music initiative. This program is called the “a3—Australian Arts Alive” Program and will involve us sending Nina Dekroo and Kate Wickson to be trained as facilitators for this. The a3 tutors will be visiting St Michael’s to run sessions with the students every 2nd Friday from 5/8/16 until 16/9/16 inclusive. The program will culminate in a performance in June on Wed, 21/9/16. Mark this date in your diary as families are invited to attend the performance. All students will be involved in choir and dance items on the day. Please make the time to join the fun!

In Term 4 our Year 5/6 students will head off for our bi-annual excursion to Canberra. The dates for this excursion are Wednesday 9/11/16 to Friday 11/11/16. Separate, more detailed notes regarding this excursion are being sent home this week and there will be forms that families need to fill in and return by next Friday.

Today some of our Year 5/6 leadership group attended a morning tea hosted by the Mayor as part of Local Government Week. Our students were informed of the role of Local Government and the services it provides to the local community. They were given opportunities to ask questions and talk with our Mayor, John Seymour, as well as some of our Councillors and members of staff from Coolamon Shire, including the General Manager, Tony Donoghue.

Last Friday some of our Year 5/6 students attended a technology day at Kildare Catholic College in which they learnt about Robotics, Programming Code and completed a Rube Goldberg Challenge involving designs of simple machines. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students and we thank Kildare for their invitation.

A reminder that the Diocesan Athletics Carnival scheduled for Friday has been postponed due to the ground in Albury being closed due to the weather.

Please be aware that I will be away from Wednesday to Friday of next week (10/8/16—12/8/16) as I will be at the Diocesan Principal’s Conference.

Don’t forget to get your places booked for the P&F’s Progressive Dinner—the bus is filling up fast!

Some very exciting news has come out of the 2016 SSA Combined AFL Championship held in Marooychydore. A huge congratulations to our two alumni boys Liam Delahunty (Yr 6, 2012) and Ryan Allen (Yr 6, 2013). Liam was named MVP for NSW and Ryan was named players player. Both boys were selected in the 2016 U15 All Australian School Boys team—the only 2 from the NSW side.

“There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” - C.S Lewis.
**P & F NEWS.**

**Next Meeting**— The next meeting of the P & F will be held on Tuesday, 9 August at 7pm. The minutes of the previous meeting are attached for your information.

**Progressive Dinner**—12/8/16—Bookings can be made and tickets purchased at the school office. Get in quick to secure your seat as the bus is filling fast!

**Raffle**—A big thank you to all our willing helpers selling tickets for our raffle last Saturday. The P & F has raised $426.60, a very pleasing morning’s work! The winner of the extensive grocery hamper prize was Mrs L Fairweather of Coolamon. Thank you to our Raffle Coordinators, Judith Whyte and Nadine Rudd.

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**Class Awards**

**Term 3—Week 2**

K/1/2

Tate O’Reilly, Lila Wilson and Noah Billingham

Year 3

Catch up Next Week!

Year 4

Frances Steele, Ned Holden and Charlie Masterson

Year 5/6

Achilles Fletcher-Sherman, Antonia Purcell and Riley Irvin

**Principal’s Award**

Catch up Next Week!

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

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**Happy Birthday**

Simon Steele—7 August

and

Mrs Bradley—Today!

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**UPCOMING DATES**

2 August—School Leaders visit the Mayor

5 August—a3 singing workshop

9 August—P & F Meeting

12 August—Progressive Dinner P & F

19 August—a3 singing workshop

23 August—Book Week—visit Coolamon Library

26 August—Gymnastics @ school

2 Sept—Author Visit & a3 singing workshop

2 Sept—Gymnastics @ school

9 Sept—Seniors Catering by P & F

9 Sept—Gymnastics @ school

15 Sept—First Communion Preparation day

16 Sept—a3 singing workshop & Gymnastics

18 Sept—First Holy Communion 9am

20 Sept—First Reconciliation 7.30pm

21 Sept—a3 Music performance @ Junee

23 Sept—Gymnastics @ school

28 Oct—Kinder 2017 Orientation half day

1—4 Nov—Scholastic Book Fair

9 Nov—Kinder 2017 Orientation half day

9—11 Nov—Canberra Excursion Year 5/6

18 Nov—Kinder 2017 Orientation half day

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**Scholastic Book Club orders are due back to school by Thursday, 4 August. Don’t Forget!**
COMMUNITY NEWS

Coolamon Shire Library—Local Government Week is being held this week from the 1st – 7th August. It promotes the importance of Local Government in our community. The library will be offering “Storytime on the Road” and will be visiting several preschools and schools within our shire.

The library would like to offer any Year 12 HSC students to the library as a place to study, research and prepare for their upcoming exams. It’s a quiet and welcoming environment for our students.

Storytime will be held this Friday, 5th August theme “Under the Sea” @ 10.30am and Friday, 19th August “Zoo” @ 10.30am.

Yours in Christ,

Brendan Flanagan

CWA International Day
Last Friday 11 5/6 students walked up to the CWA rooms and listened to a talk about Mongolia. It was a very interesting talk and all of us learnt a lot. They announced the winners of our competition. First were Helen Allen, Tom Pleming and Liam Randall. Second Conor Bradley, Siobhan Flanagan and Mitchell Dryden. Third went to Riley Irvin, Katie Boyle and Will Studholme. One group did a powerpoint presentation which has been sent to Wagga to be judged as well as the winning First and Second Posters.
By Helen and Conor B

Robotics Day
Last week 15 students from Year 5/6 participated at Kildare Catholic College for a robotics day. All students had a great time learning to program robots so they would move in sync with each other. We used a software program to add power and control a circuit board turning led lights on and off. We constructed a Rube Goldberg Machine to get a Malteaser to travel 15 cm over two obstacles into a cup. Maybe these students can demonstrate these skills in the future.
By Riley G and Bryce F
Wow! What a great day we had last Thursday as we celebrated Grandparent’s Day. Many grandparents and family members braved the cold weather to spend a few hours with us at St. Michael’s, which was greatly appreciated. Year 4 led us at our School mass and did a fantastic job. Year 6 helped out at the morning tea and were very hospitable. We had a noisy but fun time at BINGO! Thank you to anyone who joined in on this day, we hope that it becomes a lovely memory for you!
This week our Prayers come from some of our Year 3 children.

**Dear Lord,**
Please help yr 3 to prepare for their First Holy Communion and help us to be ready for this special day.

_Amen_  
Thomas

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**Dear God,**
Please help year 3 when we go through the process of First Holy Communion.

_Amen_  
Cooper

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**Dear Lord,**
Thank you Father, Doug and my parents for helping me prepare for First Holy Communion and our teachers for helping us to learn what is going to happen.

From Josh.

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**Dear God,**
We pray everyone has a great First Holy Communion and everyone's family can come! Year three will stay in our prayers while they prepare for this special day.

_Amen_  
Angela and Elia

Apologies: Dane Fuller, Sharene Mackay, Belinda Mckinley, Debbie Allen.

Minutes from last meeting Read and Approved: Moved Bruce Holden, 2nd Delvene Lewis

Business Arising:
It has been decided that school will be going with the first quote on softfall. (It does come with a 10 year warranty). Libby asked if school is going to fund cost of all the softfall or if a grant would assist in cost. Libby is happy to research a grant to help towards this.

Treasurer's report:
Attached
Moved: Brendan Flanagan 2nd; Libby Cruikshank.

Uniform shop: attached

Principal’s Report:
Attached

Correspondence: None

General Business:
Belinda Mckinley has informed the P and F that she can no longer volunteer to do the Treasurer’s position after this month. Libby Cruikshank said she is happy to take on the role of Treasurer. Bruce Holden formally put forward the motion that Libby Cruikshank be nominated to take on the Treasurer’s position on the P and F of St. Michael’s and have full internet access with the banking account.
Motion 2nd: Kerri Flanagan.
Libby Cruikshank has accepted the position of Treasurer.
Linda Moncrieff asked if the P and F would like to send a letter within the next week asking for donations for the car rally. (jargc6403mgv@target.com.au) Secretary to follow up on this.
Progressive Dinner – date 12th August 2016, 630pm Bus departure, Cruikshanks for entrée, Karen Tuckwell for Main course, followed by sweets (slices easy finger foods) at bottom pub.
Bruce will talk to Brett re cost of bus, aim more on social event rather than $. Advertising through newsletter, need to gauge numbers, aim for half bringing entrée half for mains and sweets.
Aim to be back at Bottom pub by 9pm, BYO esky’s.

Delvene suggested that we look into the tear drop banners that was suggested by Kerrl at an earlier meeting. Delvene recently attended a sporting event and it did give a professional look to the schools, it also provides a visual for children to know where their school is situated at any sporting event. Brendan will follow up as per catalogue/prices etc.
Libby Cruikshank asked if one teacher will be replacing Anita Stibbard during her absence of long service leave, this was clarified by Brendan Flanagan.

Meeting Closed: 750pm.
Next Meeting: Tuesday 10th August @ 7
Information for Parents
Enrolling Children in 2017 Kindergarten

Pre-Enrolment Interviews for Pupils of 2017 Kindergarten

Monday 22 August, Tuesday 23 August, Thursday 25 August 2016
Monday 29 August, Tuesday 30 August, Thursday 1 September 2016

Bookings can be made online through the following link:

Orientation Days for Pupils of 2017 Kindergarten

Friday, 28 October, 9 – 11.30am
Wednesday, 9 November, 9 – 11.30am
Friday, 18 November, 9 – 11.30am

DATES FOR KINDERGARTEN 2017

All Kindergarten children will complete the ‘Best Start Kindergarten’ assessment before commencing school. This assessment program has been developed by early learning experts in the Department of Education and training and will be used to discover what each student knows and can do as they start school. The assessment enables the teacher to better plan for individual student needs. The assessment focuses on numeracy and literacy skills. It is important to note that Best Start Kindergarten is not a test. Its purpose is to allow the teacher to gather information to guide the teaching of each student.

Best Start Kindergarten Assessments

Wednesday 1 February to Friday 3 February 2017

(Each child will be required to attend school for 1 hour during this week for the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment—dates and times to be allocated December 2016).

Kindergarten Commences

Monday 6 February 2017