Dear Parents & Friends,

Last week Year 5/6 experienced their Canberra Excursion. This was an excellent three days in which these students were very fortunate to experience many highly valuable and exciting learning experiences. Highlights of trip included seeing many famous politicians at parliament house (including Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten) whilst learning about how democracy works in Australia as well as being selected to represent all NSW schools at a very moving ceremony at the War Memorial for Remembrance Day. I am sure these students will have lasting memories of the entire excursion. Many thanks to the parents and staff who volunteered their time in order to make this excursion possible.

Yesterday Anita Stibbard was part of a team of four teachers who presented the results of an extensive action research project that they designed and conducted into the affect and importance of effective talking in classrooms. This research was carried out in partnership with CSU and was funded by the Primary English Teacher’s Association which is a renowned and highly respected educational organisation. This research has formed significant insights into the use of talking in teaching and learning and has attracted international interest.

We once again had very pleasing numbers attend our Kinder orientation day last Wednesday. A reminder that our next and final orientation morning will be held next Friday, 18 November 2016.

Thank you to all who attended our School Mass last week. Year 3 did a fantastic job in helping to organise and celebrate this Mass. The next Mass will be held on 1/12/16 and will be the SVDP Giving mass assisted by K/1/2.

Remembrance Day Year 4 (and Angus H) walked down to the ceremony on Friday morning where they performed the National Anthem as ambassadors for our school in the Coolamon community, accompanied by Mrs Wickson and Mrs Stibbard. I have had numerous congratulatory reports and positive feedback regarding the way our students participated and conducted themselves at this event. Congratulations to all involved.

The school’s Term 4 Whole School Play, “Dragon Girl” will be performed on Thursday, 24 November in St Michael’s Hall. As in past years, there will be a matinee/dress rehearsal at midday and a main performance in the evening. We will be having a Christmas Hamper Raffle at the School Play. If each family could donate 1 Christmas item/food it would be fantastic. Please hand in your Christmas goodie to Mrs Holzapfel in the office. We really do appreciate the generosity of each family.

We are calling for nominations for St Michael’s School Council to be put forward at the next meeting on Tues, 6/12/16. The AGM will also be held on this night. Please see the nomination form and information attached to this Newsletter. The next meeting, and AGM, of the P & F Association has also been brought forward a week to Tues, 6/12/16 beginning at 7 pm. We hope to see as many parents in attendance as possible.

We will be running an intensive Swimming program for all students over the last two weeks of the term at the Coolamon pool. Each student will participate in a one hour swimming lesson each day for two weeks. Students will be grouped according to swimming ability. All of these sessions will be run by qualified instructors and there will be no cost for these lessons which will be covered by a grant from the Sporting Schools program. Parents will have to pay for their child/ren to enter the pool each day.

We have Bryce Franklin, Tom Holden, Liam Trevaskis and Conor Bradley representing St Michael’s at the 2017 Diocesan Boys Cricket trial in Wagga this Friday, 18 November. We wish them well.

Scholastic Book Fair—Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to help out with selling books from the Book Fair last week. We had a successful fair again, with almost $430 of books and resources earned for our school. Well Done!

A reminder that there will be a Band Demonstration Day for Years 2-5 on Friday 25 November at St Michael’s Hall. This will serve as an introduction to a process of instrumental music instruction that will be offered to students in Years 3-6 in 2017 through a Catholic Schools Office initiative. Parents are also invited to attend this band demonstration. A separate, more detailed note has previously been sent out and is included again in this newsletter.

Help Needed—Our flag pole has been out of commission for some time as the rope and pulley system is sticking. The pole can be unbolted and folded down from the bottom in order to carry out repairs. The school is happy to pay for any parts that may be required. We have also taken delivery of a second flag pole, which is in need of installation. If you can think you could help with this, please see Rhonda in the office.

School Fees—Statements of any fees still owing will be sent home today with the eldest child of each family. Please ensure all fees are paid in full prior to the end of the term.

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” Mahatma Ghandi
Next Meeting— The next meeting and the AGM of the
P & F has been brought forward and will be held on,
Tues, 6 December at 7pm. All welcome!

Sport Day @ Rannock Tennis Court
POSTPONED—NEW DATE TO BE ADVISED.

P & F Street Raffle in front of the Newsagency, Coolamon
Sat, 3 December 2016
We will need two volunteers per timeslot please.
Complete your preferred time/s and return to the school office.

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UPCOMING DATES
18 Nov—Kinder Orientation half day 9—11.30am
24 Nov—“Dragon Girl” School Play Performances
25 Nov—Band Demonstration Day Yr 2-5, 11:30am
1 Dec—School Mass “SVDP Giving”
3 Dec—P & F Raffle at the Newsagency
5 Dec—P & F Meeting and AGM / School Council
11 Dec—Carols in the Park Interchurch Council 6:30pm
15 Dec—Graduation Mass 6pm/Presentation Night 7pm
16 Dec—Last day of Term 4
24 Dec—Christmas Eve Mass
   - St Patrick’s, Marrar 6pm
   - St Michael’s Coolamon 8pm
     (in St Michael’s School grounds)
25 Dec—St Michael’s Christmas Mass 9am

School Magazine 2017
Sponsorship—It is not too late for businesses to make
a donation toward our school magazine publishing
costs. All businesses who donate will have their busi-
ness card printed on the sponsor’s page. Please contact
Rhonda in the school office if you would like further
information.

Extra copies—each family is allocated one free copy
of the magazine. This is made possible because of the
sponsorship of business houses. This year we are tak-
ing orders for extra copies at a cost of $15 each. If you
would like to pre-order, please complete this following
and return it to the school office by Friday, 25 Novem-
ber.

All magazines will be available for pick up on Presenta-
tion Night.

School Magazine 2017 Extra Copies Order Form
Orders must be received at school by Fri, 25/11/16
I _______ would like to order
____ (insert quantity) copies of the Magazine at a
cost of $15 ea.
Total owing $____

Payment method: cash / cheque / direct deposit
St Michael’s School
BSB 062 600 Ac 10037320 Ref: (surname)MAG

Year 4 - Remembrance Day Ceremony, Coolamon
COMMUNITY NEWS
Coolamon Shire Library—
The library welcomes the Australian Hearing Association from Wagga on Tuesday, 29th November at 10.30am. Come and have your hearing tested and discover the latest hearing devices. This is a free service and everyone is most welcomed to attend.

The Storytime will be held Friday, 25th November theme “Grandparents” at 10.30am. We welcome grandparents to join us for this special storyline.

Our “Food for Fines” campaign is on again this year at the Coolamon Library. This is a great opportunity to clear all outstanding fines by donating non-perishable food in lieu of money. All collected food will be donated to St Vincent de Paul in Coolamon. They will then distribute the food to our local families within our shire.

The Coolamon Library is on Facebook! News, pictures, events and opportunities are regularly uploaded – join us now!

Yours in Christ,

Brendan Flanagan
During November we pray for the special people in our lives that have passed away...

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

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School Play...

**'DRAGON GIRL'**

Thursday, 24th November

Midday and 6.30 p.m performances.

Children free

Adults: Gold Coin donation

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Our Christmas Raffle Hamper (to be sold at the School Play) is looking very sad with only 1 donation from The Dyce Family. Thank you Phoebe for the Christmas wrapping paper!

Please send along to school your donation towards our Raffle to ensure that it will be a fantastic prize to win!

1 donation from each family will be greatly appreciated!

Thank you

Mrs Quinn!
15 November 2016

Dear Parents

School Council Members are elected for a two-year period. Current members are eligible to stand for re-election at the completion of the term. However, the call is now made for interested parents to nominate, re-nominate or nominate someone else for Council positions.

The School Council provides the opportunity for members of the School, Parish and Diocesan community to support the mission of Catholic education in the school. Working with Parish Priest, Principal and staff, the School Council members provide advice to the Principal on matters of policy relating to the well-being and direction of the School. Meetings are ordinarily held on the second Tuesday of each month during school terms.

The School Council is composed of: The Parish Priest, Principal, Assistant Principal, representative from the P & F Association and up to four parent representatives.

I urge you to consider a School Council position or to nominate someone you consider would work in the best interests of all members of St Michael’s Community.

Brendan Flanagan

_____________________________________________________________________________

School Council Nomination for St Michael’s Primary School, Coolamon

(Please return the completed nomination form to the School by Friday, 2/12/16)

I, _______________________________ Phone No. ____________________

Wish to nominate _______________________________ for a
position on St Michael’s Primary School Council.

Signed: _______________________________ Date ____________
4/11/16

Dear Parents,

Re: St. Michael’s, Coolamon- Band Demonstration Day

Friday 25th November - 11.30am

This year the Catholic Schools Office is proud to announce that it is developing a productive and engaging Music Education programme throughout the schools of the Wagga Wagga Diocese. I have been extremely happy to accept the position of Music Program Officer to help facilitate these musical education opportunities for all students in every school.

One of the initiatives has been to provide our students the opportunity of experiencing instrumental tuition in order to participate in school band programs.

I would like to extend an invitation to the parents of all students in Years 2-5 to attend an information session at the school which will include a band demonstration featuring some students from schools in Wagga. I will supply more information on this exciting program that is being rolled out throughout the Diocese, which will initially include lessons being subsidised by the CSO. Families will be asked to only pay for the hire of the instruments, Music books and stand that they will be using.

This session will be led on Friday 25th November at 11.30am by myself and Kildare Music teacher Robert Thompson who will inform the students about the instruments that are available to learn and also about the band.

Information and permission forms will be available from the schools, and I would encourage you to discuss your child’s participation. If you would like to join the school band program, I ask that you return this paperwork and we will then organise a tryout day where tutors will work with all interested students to decide on the most appropriate instrument for your child. They will then come home with the necessary documentation that will enable you to register your child’s participation in the program.

Kind Regards,

Fi O’Shaughnessy
Music Program Officer
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