Dear Parents & Friends,

The school’s Term 4 Whole School Play “Dragon Girl” will be performed on Thursday, 24 November in St Michael’s Hall. All are welcome to attend our matinee at midday and a main performance in the evening at 6.30pm. Entry is by gold coin donation. Please note that students will need to be at school by 6pm for the Thursday performance. Donations for the raffle prize have been flowing in and it is almost ready, with tickets available on Thursday. If you can assist with ticket sales at the evening performance, please let Rhonda know. We really do appreciate the generosity shown by each family.

We once again had very pleasing numbers attend our Kinder Orientation day last Friday. We are looking forward to our 2017 Kindergarten class starting here at St Michael’s and trust that they will find their years here enjoyable and rewarding.

St Michael’s P & F Raffle will be held in front of the newsagency this Saturday morning 26/11. We are looking for more helpers to sell tickets. Please take a look at the roster over the page to see if you can spare an hour to assist.

The next School Mass will be held on Thurs, 1/12/16 at 10.15am and will be the SVDP Giving Mass assisted by K/1/2. Donations of non-perishable food or cash is being accepted for the Vinnies (St Vincent de Paul) Christmas appeal, which can be brought in to the school office prior, or to the church on that day. From these donations our local SVDP volunteers will pack and distribute food hampers to local families in need this Christmas.

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 at 8 pm, following the School Council meeting. We hope to see as many parents in attendance as possible. On this night we will also take time to celebrate all of the great work that the P&F and School Council have done over the year in support of the school so we encourage all attending to bring along some nibbles and cold drinks to share.

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. Swimming instruction, coaching and training will be tailored to suit the needs and be appropriate for all levels of swimming ability and competence. 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. Permission notes and swimming ability questionnaires need to be returned ASAP.

A reminder that there will be a Band Demonstration Day for Years 2-5 this 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 further information will be provided on the day.

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.

START DATES FOR 2017 SCHOOL YEAR
Staff return on Friday, 27 January 2017.
School begins 2017 for Years 1-6, Tues, 31 Jan 2017.
Best Start Interviews for Kindergarten 2017 will be held from Wed 1 Feb – Fri 3 Feb 2017 and can now be booked on SOBS by following this link: https://sobs.com.au/pt/parent.php

Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)—As you are aware, our Year 5/6 class have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

“Smart is when you believe half of what you hear. Brilliant is when you know which half.” Robert Orben
**P & F News**

**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 8pm (please note the later time, after the School Council meeting which begins at 7pm). Bring along nibbles and cold drinks to celebrate the year.

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**P & F Street Raffle in front of the Newsagency, Coolamon**

Sat, 3 December 2016

We will need two volunteers per timeslot please.

Complete you preferred time/s and return to the school office.

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
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<tr>
<td>7–8 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>8–9 am</td>
<td>Charmaine Fletcher</td>
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<td>9–10 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>10–11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>11–12 midday</td>
<td>Nadine Rudd</td>
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**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 business 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 taking 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 November.

All magazines will be available for pick up on Presentation Night.

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**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

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**UPCOMING DATES**

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
8 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)
COMMUNITY NEWS

Coolamon Shire Library——
The Storytime will be held this Friday, 25th November theme “Grandparents” @ 10.30am. We welcome grandparents to join us for this special storytime.

The library welcomes the Australian Hearing Association from Wagga on Tuesday, 29th November @ 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.

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

The students of St. Joseph’s Primary School Wagga Wagga are preparing the musical production

THE PEACE CHILD

We would like to extend an invitation to your staff and students to attend our matinee performance.

When: Thursday 17th December, 11:30am.
Where: Kildare Catholic College Hall, Coleman Street.

The duration of the show will be approximately 1 hour. Please contact the school for further information, or to reserve seating.
At this harvest time we thank you for all the good things you give us everyday.
Lord of all creation: hear our prayer
At this harvest time we thank you for the hard work of all those who grow, protect and prepare our food; for the shopkeepers, the transport delivery drivers, the processors and the farmers.
Lord of all creation: hear our prayer
At this harvest time we thank you for the world we see around us; for the flowers, the trees and the animals. Bless all those who care for them, Lord.
Lord of all creation: hear our prayer
As we give thanks for all that is good in your creation and all who bring in the Harvest of the sea and the land,
Lord of all creation: hear our prayer
At this harvest time we ask for your blessing on our families, friends and neighbours, on those who are sick and those who have died. Help us to recognise the interdependence of all of life and the importance of just relations and responsible stewardship of all you continue to give us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Lord of all creation: hear our prayer

this harvest morning and every day. Amen

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‘Dragon Girl’

This Thursday
Midday and 6.30p.m Performances.
Gold Coin Donation for adults to enter, children free.
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

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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 ___________________________