Term 4 Week 8, 29 November 2016

Principal's Report

Dear Parents & Friends,

A very big thank you to all who came to watch our Whole School Play “Dragon Girl” and support all of the hard work that was done by our students and teachers in preparing for and staging this fantastic event. I think all would agree that all of our performers and backstage people were absolutely wonderful and put on a number of excellent performances of the play. Thanks goes to all staff who contributed to the preparation and performance however a very special thank you to Nina Dekroo and Leanne Ellis-Quinn who were the driving forces and main organisers of the play.

Our lucky winners of the hampers that were raffled on the night were: 1st Prize—Bronwyn Halden; 2nd Prize—Bec Allen; 3rd Prize—Kerry Leary. This, combined with the gold coin entry, raised over $800 to assist with costs for the play.

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.

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.

Following on from the Band Demonstration Day for Years 2-5 last Friday, the CSO Music Program will be holding a Band Tryout Day at St Michael’s on Thursday for interested students. In order to participate in this, students and parents must have completed the expression of interest form given out on Friday and returned it to school today.

Our Uniform Shop will open for the last time this year on Thursday 8:30—9:00am. It would be greatly appreciated if your uniform purchases could be finalised then. The Uniform Shop will reopen next year in Week 1, with days yet to be finalised. Rhonda in the office can assist you with any urgent uniform needs at other times by prior arrangement.

Please be aware that our students will be visiting the Coolamon Library this Friday. We thank Helen McLoughlin for once again inviting us to visit and assisting us to both foster a love of books and reading in our students as well as making our students aware of the fantastic resources available through our community library.

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

It’s time to return all School Library Books please, to avoid a fine!
Anyone interested in helping with covering of new books please see Rhonda.

“Time flies. It’s up to you to be the navigator.” - Robert Orben
**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 @ 7pm). Bring along nibbles and cold drinks to celebrate the year.

**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 to see if you can spare an hour to assist.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7—8 am</td>
<td>Charmaine Fletcher</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sharene Mackay</td>
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<tr>
<td>8—9 am</td>
<td>Libby Cruikshank</td>
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<tr>
<td>9—10 am</td>
<td>Nadine Rudd</td>
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<td>10—11 am</td>
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<td>11—12 midday</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, 2/12/16

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**

1 Dec—School Mass “SVDP Giving”
3 Dec—P & F Raffle at the Newsagency
8 Dec—School Council/P & F Meeting & AGM
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
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Coolamon Shire Library**—
Our next Storytime will be held Friday, 9th December theme “Snakes” @ 10.30am. Then our final Storytime for the year will be held Friday, 16th December theme “Xmas” @ 10.30am. A small party will conclude storytime for the year and a very special guest will be appearing as well. 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 library is taking names to join a book club. A book club is for anyone who loves to read a varied selection of books and meet with others to chat about them. The library provides ten copies of one title plus background notes and discussion questions. For further details please phone the library - 69272492

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

Yours in Christ,

Brendan Flanagan

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**Nutrition Snippet**

**The simplest way**

...to add veg to the dinner plate.

Boost the vegetable content of the evening meal with these quick and easy additions to the dinner plate.

Serve a mixed salad with a lean meat accompaniment, going for plenty of variety in the colour of the salad ingredients.

Grate extra veg into mince-based dishes.

Add a rainbow of different coloured vegetables to a stir fry.

Serve homemade pizza, reducing the meat content and loading up the veg.

Blend vegies into sauces.

Add other root veg to mashed potato, such as pumpkin and sweet potato.

For more information visit

www.eatittobeatit.com.au

or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit
CELEBRATING ADVENT

The period of Advent, which means “to come,” is the period of waiting for the birth of Christ at Christmas. It is a period of anticipation, of looking forward.

The main quality of Advent is waiting. At this time we are unable to do anything but wait through the growing darkness until we can celebrate the return of the Light. Most Advent customs have to do with marking time: lighting one candle on the Advent wreath each week, opening another door on the Advent calendar. These markers show us in a concrete way how much time has passed and how much time is left before the event we so joyously anticipate...

Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.
Amen.

Our next School Mass is this Thursday, at 10.15 am and the K, 1, 2 class will be our special helpers during the Mass.
The theme of our Mass is GENEROSITY.
At this Mass, we give non-perishable food to the St. Vincent de Paul Society who will in turn create food hampers and distribute them to people in need for Christmas. We hope many family and friends of St. Michael’s will join us on Thursday.
Dragon Girl

2016