Dear Parents,

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend and were able to get some quality family time. I have been in Brisbane all week participating in the leadership course offered through the Queensland Education Leadership Institute. I will endeavour to provide you with some feedback on the course in the near future.

**Kindergarten 2017**

I will be commencing the Kindergarten interviews next week as I will be away in Term 2 for different periods of time. On top of that, the First Holy Communion and Confirmation will be both held in Term 2 to align better with the liturgical calendar i.e. the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ for Holy Communion and Pentecost for Confirmation. Therefore, it makes sense to do the Kindergarten enrolments now.

At the moment, we are having strong interest from Catholic families to enrol their children. This is quite different to the 2016 intake. **Please remember that your younger children are our highest priority, followed by children from our parish.** I only have a couple of vacancies left and I'm very keen to make sure no-one gets left out. If you haven’t informed the office about your younger child attending Kindergarten in 2017, please do so ASAP.

**First Reconciliation**

Next **Wednesday 16th March** is a special date for our Year 3 students who will be receiving the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. **The ceremony will be held in our parish at 6.00pm and Fr Son will have a couple of other priests there to support him.** Please keep these beautiful young people in your prayers. I’m sure it will be a meaningful ceremony and I would like to thank Miss Lambe and the staff who have supported her in advance.

**Palm Sunday**

Please remember that **Sunday 20th March is Palm Sunday.** I strongly encourage all families to participate in the Holy Week activities which will be held in our parish. If you get the opportunity, you can experience the Sacrament of Penance just as the Year 3 students have. As they say in that famous ad, “Please consider!”

**Laurie Bechelli**

**PRINCIPAL**
SCHOOL FEES

Our ANZ Bank Account details are as follows, for anyone wishing to pay directly into it.

BSB: 016-255     ACC: 4247 69155

Your name must be included in any payments made through the bank account.

Alternatively, direct debit forms are available from the school office if you wish to set up a regular payment.

If you wish to apply for HCC discount on the tuition fee portion of the account, please come to the office to fill in a HCC form and present a copy of your concession card.

School Fee accounts have been sent home this week.

ABSENTEE LINE: 6278 9802

Please phone the number above if your child is absent from school. We ask that you do not email individual class teachers regarding absence, but use the dedicated phone line instead. You will also need to give a signed note of explanation to the class teacher on your child’s return to school.

TRASH FREE TUESDAY

We ask that on every Tuesday you are mindful of the way you package your children’s lunchbox to minimise waste at our school. Ideally we would love to see no wrappers, and all food packaged into containers.

NO PARKING IN KISS AND RIDE!

Please don’t park in the Kiss & Ride and leave your vehicle. It badly impedes the flow of traffic and holds up other families who are trying to drop children off. If you need to help your child out of the car or escort them to the classroom, please park your car elsewhere.

SCHOOL IS A NUT FREE ZONE

St Michael’s School is an Allergy Friendly School. We have students who can experience a life threatening reaction to tasting, touching or smelling nuts.

Students should not bring ANY items of food where the key ingredient is nuts. This means pastes such as Nutella and Peanut Butter; raw nuts such as almonds, pistachios, cashews and peanuts; or foods with nuts as a main ingredient, such as muesli bars or chocolate bars containing nuts.

We ask that these products not be brought to school.

Kindergarten 2017

If you, or someone you know, has a child born 1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013 please collect an application form from the school office, or download a form from our website. Kindergarten enrolments for 2017 will be finalised in the next few weeks.

CANTEEN NEWS

FISH OPTIONS FOR LENT - All $4.50

⇒ Fish burger, sauce and salad
⇒ Fish Fingers, potato gems or mashed potato and mini corn cob.
⇒ Tuna Mac ‘n’ Cheese

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS - $3.50

⇒ Spinach & ricotta roll
⇒ Vegie Supreme pie

Uniform Shop News

♦ Most winter orders are complete and are ready for collection.
♦ Hats, socks and microfibre shorts are in.
♦ If anyone is available to assist in the Uniform Shop on a Tuesday morning or Thursday afternoon, please email me at: matnkaz@iinet.net.au

Thanks!
Karen Swindale
Uniform Shop Coordinator

LIBRARY NEWS

We were treated to three generations of beautiful library volunteers this week. Grandmother, Mrs Janice Stenning, Mother, Mrs Joanna Kay and Daughter, Grace Kay.

Grace is a former student of St Michael’s.

Photo: Courtesy of Mrs Harwood
Assistant Principals’ Update

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Teachers will be providing parents with the opportunity to participate in interviews during Weeks 7 – 10. This is an opportunity to learn about the progress your child has made throughout the term. Please look out for the rosters placed outside individual classrooms and book a time to discuss concerns you may have about your child’s learning with the class teacher. The allotted time for the interviews is only 10 minutes, please keep this in mind as other parents will be waiting.

FIRST RECONCILIATION
On Wednesday evening we will be joining the Year 3’s in celebrating their First Reconciliation. This is a very important time for the Year 3’s as they start their Sacramental journey. A big thank you in advance to Ms Rosemary Lambe for the enormous effort she has put into ensuring the Year 3’s are prepared to receive this Sacrament.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
The Easter Season is well and truly upon us and there are some very excited girls and boys (and teachers) in our school community. On Holy Thursday, 24th March, we will be celebrating the Stations of the Cross at 9am in the Hall. This will be a very reflective experience for the students in gaining a better understanding of the significance of the many things Jesus did. Please take the opportunity to participate in this significant event with the students of St Michael’s. Taking part in activities such as these prior to Easter helps prepare the children to gain a better understanding of the importance of Easter in our faith.

LOTS OF SOCKS DAY
The students have been invited to participate in Wear Lots of socks on 21 March 2016 to raise awareness on World Down Syndrome Day. BUT NOT JUST ANY SOCKS…brightly coloured socks, mismatched socks, long socks, printed socks, 1 sock…maybe even 3 socks (or EXTRA socks) for 3 chromosomes. Or if you don’t normally wear socks then wear them. Just so long as they are socks which are on display and people will ask you about.

EASTER DATES
Parents Please Note: Good Friday, Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday are Holidays.

Jacquie Fox & Lisa Liebregts

Footy Tipping Competition 2016
Once again we are on the verge of another awesome football season! The NAB Challenge Cup is well underway and it is only a matter of a few short weeks before the real deal starts and we are all proudly wearing our team colours and being the best Monday experts ever!

Very shortly I will be sending home Footy Tipping Competition registration forms and joining instructions with your eldest child, so keep your eyes peeled. We will be using the footytips.com.au website competition again for 2016. Everyone is welcome to join, so please encourage your family and friends to jump on board as well. Subscription will remain at $50 per tipster for the whole season (including the finals games).

This is a P&F fundraising initiative to help towards enhancing the learning environment and literacy resources of our children.

Cheers!
Bec Dwyer

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY
21st March 2016
LOTS OF SOCKS!
To help us celebrate World Down Syndrome Day, Down Syndrome WA is inviting schools right across WA to hold a “lots of socks” day! Students may wear bright, fun, colourful socks to mark World Down Syndrome Day, and to make a gold coin donation to Down Syndrome WA.

Your donation will help Down Syndrome WA continue to provide support to people with Down Syndrome, families and the community.
Give your child a head start in Money Matters

School Banking – Every Wednesday:
Deposit wallet to be placed in each classroom inside CBA grey satchels each Wednesday for collection and return. Please check your child’s school bag to make sure that the deposit wallet has been processed and returned. In the event that the deposit wallet has not been returned the same day each Wednesday, please check with your respective class teacher. In the event that your child arrives late at school, and the CBA grey satchels have been collected, please come and see us at the Multi-Purpose Room (only up to 9.55am) to drop off your banking wallets or with money to be banked accordingly as per your instructions if you have forgotten your wallets but still wish to make a deposit.

Congratulations to Students who have Redeemed 10 Tokens Term 1 2016:
Emily.D, Devlin.P(Yr1), Max.C (Yr3), Lauren.H(Yr4).

Reminder to make one deposit per month:
In order to ensure that your child’s Youthsaver account earns bonus interest on top of the standard interest you must make at least one deposit per month.

Calling for School Banking Volunteers!
Please confirm your interest in volunteering for this great program by contacting me on details provided.
Regards and thank you.
Jordana Knezovic School Banking Coordinator
0405829869 or jr@jrgroup.com.au

LA SALLE COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Tuesday 5 April 2016
Tour times: 9:15am, 11:15am and 1:30pm
We welcome you to view our extensive facilities.
To book your preferred tour time, please contact the Community Relations Department on 9449 0635 or email communityrelations@lasalle.wa.edu.au

Congratulations to three of our former students were voted in as class representatives at Chisholm College this week. Lucy Round-Rawlins, Lachlan Swindale and Chelsea Laurito are doing St Michael’s proud. Well done, kids!