



NEWSLETTER No. 16

Friday, 13th October 2023



DIARY DATES

TERM 4

OCTOBER

Tues 17th	Emergency Evacuation Drill at 2:30pm
Wed 18th	Regional Athletics
Fri 20th	3/4 & 5/6 Cricket Day at Maffra
Fri 27th	World Teachers Day
Mon & Tues 30th, 31st	3/4 Coonawarra Camp

NOVEMBER

Wed 1st	School Advisory Committee– 7:00pm
Monday 6th	School Closure Day
Tuesday 7th	Melbourne Cup Day - Public Holiday
Friday 24th	Pupil Free Day– Staff Professional
Development	

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Firstly a big welcome back to all students and families to Term 4. What an eventful week 1 we had with close by bushfires and then floods. I'd like to thank all families for their support and understanding last Thursday and Friday when we were required to run a modified learning program due to some staff members unable to get to St. Michael's because of road closures. This also had an impact on our Year 3/4 Coonawarra camp. I'm happy to say that we have been able to reschedule this camp to Monday 30th October and Tuesday 31st October.

Throughout the Sale Diocese there are schools placed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). Schools assessed to be most at risk of bushfire and grassfire are placed on the BARR. St. Michael's is one of these schools. As part of our emergency management plan we have a clear procedure and response to follow if we were at risk by a bushfire or grassfire. I have attached this document on page 4 of the newsletter.

TERM DATES 2023



TERM 4 - 2nd October - 20th December
STUDENTS LAST DAY– MONDAY 18th
DECEMBER

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Melb Cup - 7 November

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

6/11/23

24/11/23

Earlier this week while I was out on yard duty I observed so many students including each other in games and activities. I asked students when they lined up to come into class, about students they saw that were being inclusive and respectful to one another during this break. I was incredibly proud of the students at St. Michael's and the way so many students were able to articulate these behaviours and actions. Teachers will continue to recognize and encourage these positive behaviours and actions.

Have a great weekend.

SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

It's been a great week everyone. We have Tahlia, Lottie, Henry, Justin, Millie and Molly going through to the next round in athletics on Wednesday and we wish them the best of luck. We look forward to everyone having a great term 4 and we know there will be lots of great things happening here at school.



St Michael's Primary School acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gunaikurnai people, traditional custodians of the land on which the school is built. As a school community, we commit to walk alongside our First Nations people for reconciliation, truth and justice.



WEAR A HAT AND BE SUN SMART

In order to be sun smart in the warmer weather students are required to wear their wide brimmed or bucket hats during Term 4.



SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

Please be aware that we do have some school closure and pupil free days this term. A school closure day will occur on **Monday 6th November**. This day is a Time-in-Lieu day as part of the DOSCEL Schools and Secretariat Agreement.

We have a pupil free day on **Friday 24th November**. This day staff members will continue their professional development on best practices when focusing on reading instruction.



A big congratulations to Emmy and Poppy for representing St. Michael's and the Heyfield and District at the Lions Junior Public Speaking - District Semi-finals in Trafalgar. To be able to speak so well and in front of so many people is a great achievement! Awesome job girls!

GIPPSLAND REGION ATHLETICS

We wish Millie, Molly, Tahlia, Lottie, Justin and Henry the best of luck on Wednesday when they compete in the Gippsland Region Athletics in Newborough. They will compete against other students from all over Gippsland.

Congratulations to Oliver

Oliver's Melbourne Show winning Grand Champion Rooster - named BFG





Truth



13th October

William: For Taking care with his handwriting.

Aiden: For a great start to St. Michael's. Welcome!

Mitchell: For confidently reading the prayers of the faithful at mass.

Wally: For writing a comprehensive journal of his holidays.

Lily: For writing a detailed holiday recount.

Benji: For reading with confidence the prayers of the faithful at mass.

Poppy: For research in Religion about our names and their significance.

Chloe: For giving insightful answers in our reading sessions this week.

Lottie: For her research in Religion about our names and their significance.



St Michael, our archangel and patron: Pray for us.

St Michael, protector of us all: Pray for us.

St Michael, whose name means 'he who is like God': Pray for us.

St Michael, who gives us courage and strength: Pray for us.

St Michael, defender of us all: Pray for us.

St Michael, who stands for truth: Pray for us.

St Michael, a man of prayer: Pray for us.

St Michael, who guides us every day: Pray for us.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday in the last fortnight.

- Millie: 17th September
- Emily: 22nd September
- Luther: 27th September
- Archie: 29h September
- Tania: 5th October
- Suzi: 10th October



OUR PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Edwin Ogbuka

Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com 0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY: Willie Schoenmaekers

Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au

Mass is celebrated at St Michael's Church in Heyfield on Tuesday mornings at 9.30am and Saturday evenings at 6.00pm.



Bushfire At-Risk Register Schools (BARR)

Pre-emptive Closure of the school Response Steps

Bushfire/Grassfire Specific Emergency Response Procedures

Code Red/Catastrophic fire danger Days

St Michael's School will close on days declared Code Red/Catastrophic fire danger.

Where possible, three days' notice of a planned closure will be provided. However, experience indicates that a Code Red/Catastrophic fire danger day fire danger rating day may be forecast at short notice. Parents and guardians should expect that in some instances less than three days' notice may be provided.

Once the final decision to close is confirmed at 12 noon the day prior, this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help families plan for how their children will be cared for when their school is closed.

Notice of a 'code red/Catastrophic fire danger' closure will be provided via the school app and email.

When a school is closed in response to bushfire risk, no one, including staff, contractors and other users, will be permitted on site.

A bushfire/grassfire is observable or identified via VicEmergency App within 20km from the school.

And/or

There is an Advice, Watch and Act or Emergency Warning area for the fire that includes your school.

Shelter in place with threat of bushfire:

Option 1 – Church (this is the only brick building on site)

Option 2 – School ICT Room (if it is unsafe to leave the building)

Contact parents: via School App, SMS Message from school phone, Dojo

Immediate Actions

If immediate emergency services assistance is required call '000'.

Convene your Incident Management Team (IMT).

Report the incident to DOSCEL Secretariat Emergency Management Officer on 03 5622 6603 or 0417 534 695.

If your school is in an Emergency Warning area and the warning states that it is too late to leave then shelter in place and seek further advice.

If your school is in a Watch and Act warning area then seek advice and then decide whether to:

remain on site and monitor conditions or shelter in place, call parents to pick their children up, evacuate the school to your offsite bushfire evacuation location.

If your school is in an Advice Warning area then seek further advice and monitor conditions as they may change.

ECO WARRIORS

The Eco Warriors

This week's article will be about the words you might be hearing in the news and other places, you might not know what they mean. So we will be doing a glossary of Environmental related words.

Environment- All the natural physical surroundings on Earth are called the environment.

Global warming- The rise in the Earth's average temperature over a long period of time.

Carbon Dioxide-Carbon dioxide is a molecule that contains two oxygen atoms and one carbon atom.

Climate change-Climate change refers to the long-term changes in global temperatures and other characteristics of the atmosphere.

Endangered-Endangered is a word used to describe plants and animal species that are nearly extinct/gone.

EcoSystem- Ecosystems include all of the living things (plants, animals and organisms) ,interacting with each other, and also with their non-living environments (weather, earth, sun, soil, climate, atmosphere).

Deforestation-Deforestation is the clearing, or cutting down, of forests.

Recycling-Recycling is the way of changing waste materials/objects into something useful./ Pick up the rubbish and if you can recycle it do it.

Pollution-Pollution is anything that makes the earth dirty and unhealthy.

Atmosphere-The atmosphere is a mixture of gases that surrounds the Earth.

