Welcome to 2016

Welcome back to all our old friends. It was great to see their smiling faces and watch their eagerness as they start another busy year. Hopefully everyone had a very enjoyable break and was able to recoup their energy.

A very warm welcome to our 8 new Kinders - Harry Armstrong, Noah James, Lily Frampton, Madeleine Gaden, Stephanie Whitten, Cooper Baker, Bailey Horton, & Sally Kearney and their families, They arrived on Friday and were very eager to be part of everything.

I think they have been here before!!!

We also welcome Stella Valler (Year 1) & her Mum Amy. We hope they settle into St Michael’s and enjoy meeting new friends.

A big welcome to Mrs Gaudry Years 4/5/6 teacher (Mon – Wed), Mrs Sweeney K/1 (Thurs & Fri) who will be working with Mrs Brennan in K/1 room, and Kellie Reid as Groundsperson. It is great to have them join our hard working and committed team.

School News:

Aussie of the Week:

We will once again have “Aussie of the Week Award” at St Michael’s. The award is given to a student who exhibits the qualities of our School Motto “Living Loving and Learning” The award will be presented at Friday Assembly and acknowledged with a certificate and on the weekly Newsletter. This will not be done class by class but across the school.

Routine: Our daily routine is as follows. This year we will continue our uninterrupted Literacy and Numeracy blocks. We are hoping to minimise outside interruptions eg sporting groups, travelling shows, so our core business gets prime time.

8:35 am: Morning Duty commences on the top oval

8.55 am: Assembly (Monday) Fruit Break (please ensure your child has a piece of fruit each day. For the younger children please cut it up to minimize waste)

9.15 am: Religious Education

Thought of the Week:

“A seed of hope planted deep in good earth, watched by the Lord, warmed by the ‘Son’. Darkness grows into light.

Mary MacKillop
School News continues

9:45  Literacy
11:00  Recess (20 minute break)
11.20  Maths
12.20  Spelling Mastery and Readlive
       Wednesday is Creative Arts
1:10pm:  Lunch (40 minute break)
          Afternoon session includes Reading to
          a partner as well as Music, Dance &
          Drama, PDHPE, History/Geography &
          Science & Technology on different
days.

3:10pm:  School finishes.

Some important things to remember:

• that your child/children are not at school before
  8:30am
• that shoulder length hair is tied back not falling
  over faces or shoulders.
• please ensure that your child/children have good,
  nutritious and sufficient food in their lunch
  boxes each day, along with fruit for fruit break.
  They also require a drink bottle filled with
  water. In this hot weather a second bottle of
  water maybe necessary.
• Our Canteen will operate on Mondays for
  2016. An updated price list went home last
  week.
• Newsletter will go to print on Wednesday. We
  will continue to email the Newsletter, so please
  let us know if that is not suitable. New parents
  this is an option so just let us know your email
  address.
• Our Staff Meetings will take place on Tuesdays.
• St Michael’s prides itself on having an open
  school policy. If at anytime you need anything
  please feel free to phone or call in. I will be in
  the Office each afternoon, so please remember
  that my door is always open. If at the time you
  call I am busy I am happy to organise a suitable
  time for both parties.

The Office staff is available each day from 9am
- 3.30. In the event that the phone goes to
message, please leave a message and it will be
attended to as quickly as possible. May I ask
that you do not ring class teachers on their
mobiles during teaching hours as all mobiles
will be switched to silent while class is in
progress. Thanks for your understanding.

St Michael’s Staff 2016
School Chaplain:  Fr Augustine Mathew
Principal/REC:  Sr Margaret Flood
Support Teacher:  Mrs Catherine Sweeney
                (Tues & Wed)
                Mrs Peta Brennan
K/1  Mrs Peta Brennan
     Mrs Catherine Sweeney
        (Thurs, Fri)
2/3:  Mrs Monica Foran
4/5/6:  Mrs Cath Gaudry
       (Mon, Tues, Wed)
       Mrs Jen Baker
         (Thurs, Fri)
RFF &
PLC Coordinator:  Mrs Sally Dent (Wed)
Support Staff:  Mrs Elizabeth Reeves
               Sr Margaret Flood
Clerical Assistant:  Mrs Carrol Yeo
                   Miss Meeghan Russell
                     (Mon)
Grounds Staff:  Kellie Reid
Cleaners:  Gail Court
          Pat Cowell

Calendar 1st February – 10th February

5th February Swimming Carnival
8th February Meet the teacher & Class Information
6pm K/1  6.45 2/3  7.30 4/5/6  8pm P & F AGM
Drinks & Nibblies while you wait.
10th February Ash Wednesday & Opening School Mass 9.30
Parent Information Evening and P & F AGM:
Our Parent Information Night will be held on Monday 8th February prior to the P & F AGM. The Information Evening will be held in your child's classroom. There will be refreshments and an opportunity to meet and greet our new families as well as catch up with each other. Please make every effort to attend as we have lots of important information to share with you about the coming year. If it is impossible for you to attend please talk to your child's teacher for an update.

Please make an effort to stay for the P&F AGM.

Permission Notes:
General Permission Note, which went home last week covers all in town excursions of a general nature, eg walking to Church, Hostel, park, swimming pool etc. also there is a part to be filled in covering teachers transporting students in their car to the Radio Station. Excursions of a more specific nature require a permission note of their own. If you require more information about this, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Photos
If you do not wish for your child's photo to appear in Newsletters, Dunedoo Diary, Catholic Observer etc, please indicate your request in writing. Otherwise we assume we have your permission for this to occur as it is part of our Enrolment Form. Please be aware that if you are communicating by facebook with family and friends that photos do not include other people's children.

Students with Medical Form
For legal reasons medications are only to be administered to students by staff once parents have given written permission. If your child receives daily or regular medication please speak to your child's class teacher, so the necessary information is received. Students also should not take any forms of medication themselves.

Going home with the Newsletter is a Medical Alert Form. Please complete and return to school, even if your child does or does not have a medical condition by Monday 8th February.

Term Calendar:
Going home with the Newsletter today is the Term Calendar. Please place in a safe place for easy reference.

School Swimming:
All students K-6 will be involved in swimming for sport on a Tuesday afternoon. Students will need to bring along swimmers, towel etc and $3.00 or season ticket to cover pool admission. The students will walk to the pool. If your child is not participating in swimming a note is required explaining their non-participation. Also if your child is allowed to remain at the pool, a note is also required.

Parish News:
SACRAMENT DATES FOR 2016
16th Mar Parent Mtg for All
Sacraments
(Eucharist, Confirmation & Reconciliation)

FIRST EUCHARIST
3rd Apr Enrolment 1st Eucharist
29th May 1st Eucharist Celebration

CONFIRMATION
15th May Enrolment for Confirmation
26th June Sacrament of Confirmation

FIRST RECONCILIATION
7th August Enrolment for Reconciliation
22nd Sept 1st Reconciliation Celebration

Week-end Mass Times:
Coolah: Saturday 6pm
Mendooran: 2nd & 4th 8am
Elong Elong: 1st, 3rd, 5th 8am
Ballimore: 2nd & 4th 8am
Dunedoo: Sunday 10am
Binnaway 1st & 3rd 11.15 am

Altar Servers:
February 7th - L Kearney & N Inder
February 14th - A Brennan & J Guan
February 21st - C Abbott & J Spargo
February 28th - Z Brennan

Opening School Mass Wed 10th Feb at 9.30 am
**Birthdays:**

December

29th - Jack Deutscher

January

14th - Bridey Easterbrook

23rd - Patrick Reid

25th - Lottie Telford

February

2nd - Cooper Horton

---

**Community News**

Valentine’s Day Dinner
Dunedoo Bowling Club
Friday 12 February 2016
7 for 7.30 Dinner

Guest Speaker Patricia Weerakoon

Coolah Dunedoo Anglican Parish is holding their Valentine’s Day dinner again this year and what guest speaker fits the bill more perfectly than a Consultant Sexologist to add some sparkle and romance to day.

Patricia Weerakoon completed her education at the University of Colombo, and moved to Australia in the early nineties where she completed a Graduate Diploma in Couples Counselling, Relationships Australia. In January 2012 she became a Consultant Sexologist.

People who have heard her speak have found her very entertaining and she has enriched and empowered the sex life of both couples and singles.

You may think that a church dinner and a Sexologist are at odds with each other, but not so. Come along and listen and you may be surprised at just how enlightening this lady is.

Tickets can be purchased from Milling Stuart $30 each.

RSVP by 5 February 2016

---

Annual Dunedoo Preschool

Trivia Night

When: Friday 26th February 2016

Where: Dunedoo Central School Hall

From: 6:30pm

What: Trivia and great auction items

Grab 10 Friends, come along and have a great night answering FUN questions and buying up BIG in the Auction! (Don’t worry if you do not have 10 friends, come along anyway!)

Bring: Supper and a wineglass

Available: Bar facilities and fabulous Auction Items

Tickets on sale at the Dunedoo Newsagency for $20 or at the door on the night.

---

Meet the teacher & P & F AGM
Monday 8th February.