Dear Families,

Our term is progressing at a steady pace with many exciting events happening in classrooms. It is always encouraging to see children engaging in rich learning experiences and immersing themselves in whole school activities. In particular the children are abuzz with the opportunity to raise money for Caritas (project Compassion) in order to help raise money as part of Lent. All monies raised will be used to support those in far greater need than ourselves.

Refurbishment Project

Over the last year we have been working towards achieving stage three of our Master plan in the development of the school's facilities. Nearing the end of last year we recognized a fee increase would be necessary to help support capital works needed to ensure the school's facilities are maintained and enhanced; thus enabling an improved learning environment for our children.

Our intended scope of works for stage three included:

⇒ Replacement of the entire roof in the older section of the school (admin area down to the glass door near Prep S and 3/4I classrooms.
⇒ Removal of contained asbestos sheeting which couldn’t be removed as part of the BER project.
⇒ Refurbishment of the three prep classrooms and 4 of the 3&4 classrooms in this block(3&4B, G, HE and I)
⇒ Refurbishment of the staffroom facilities
⇒ Minor works near the first aid area/teacher resource.

Our main intention, first and foremost, was the roof replacement and removal of all asbestos.

The accomplishment of all the above listed works would be entirely dependent on the estimated cost of the project. (Financing of the project the school would be via a new loan and using cash reserves to help support expected costs.)

Tenders for the project closed last Friday and we are now pleased (after a hold up on acquiring a building permit) to announce that King-Built Commercial has been the successful tender. We are also extremely excited as all of the works listed above will now be able to be achieved in the total cost of the project, not just the roof and asbestos removal!

Our attention now though turns to the impending date where the building company needs to take possession of the work site. The priority on this is high so that all asbestos removal can take place during the school holidays. The date of possession is Monday 16th March which will require some immediate action with respect to relocation of affected classes and work areas. We have allocated specific areas for relocation but in the coming days we will need to ensure that these areas, and temporary learning areas, are thoroughly established so that the learning program and school operation will not be affected.

As you will appreciate the time frame is short and a lot of preparation and establishment work is now necessary. Whilst our plan is to minimize disruption during relocation it is imminent that some classes during next week will be affected. Such actions will be necessary to ensure the safety of children is not compromised during relocation, and provision is made for teachers to have adequate time and space to re-establish their classrooms in a new location.

Some initial work has already commenced but on Friday 13th March the following classes will not be required to attend school so that relocation and re-establishment may occur:

Prep A, S and C
Grades 3/4B, G, HE and I.

This will be the final day (before possession of the site) where all furniture and resources will be moved and time needed for the teachers to re-establish their learning area. All other classes will attend school as usual.

We are very confident that these interim plans during the project will not disadvantage the students or the current learning program. We hope that you appreciate the gravity and necessity of the current situation, and understand that the final result will leave us with greatly improved facilities and refurbished classrooms for the children to come back into.

Fr Bernard, the Catholic Education Office of Sale and our Advisory Board are aware of the situation and fully supportive of our intentions and plans for the coming weeks. I am happy to discuss this further with any parent if required.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY TOMORROW 6TH MARCH

ATHLETICS DAY
WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH

HOT CROSS BUN PICK UP DATE TUESDAY 24TH MARCH BETWEEN 2.30PM AND 3.45PM (Orders due back Friday 13th March)

SPECIAL FOOD DAY—THURSDAY 19TH MARCH
ORDERS DUE BACK THURSDAY 12TH MARCH
St Michael’s Parish

VISION STATEMENT
The family of St Michael’s Parish, living gospel values, celebrates the rich diversity of its members. As a faith community, journeying with God, we welcome others along the way.

St Michael’s Parish
Mass at St. Gabriel’s

AN INVITATION TO OUR SCHOOL MASSES
Each week a Mass is celebrated in St. Gabriel’s school Chapel which is prepared and attended by two to three classes of children. Sometimes the “Mass of the Day” is used and sometimes a theme being discussed in the classroom is celebrated. Parents and parishioners are always welcome and encouraged to attend these school Masses and celebrate with the children.
It would be wonderful for your children to see that you value and enjoy this aspect of their Catholic education. Masses will be held at 9.15am in the chapel located off the main foyer at St. Gabriel’s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Grade Masses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/3</td>
<td>1/2KL/P/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/3</td>
<td>1/2Q/J/N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/3</td>
<td>Middle School At St. Michael’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Piety Stall will be open for Eucharist gifts etc. on the following dates March 9th, 11th and 13th from 12.30pm to 3.00pm. The stall will also be open after all weekend masses.

St Michael’s Youth Group
Calendar for Term 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th March</td>
<td>Easter &amp; Scavenger Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th April</td>
<td>Super Sports Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th May</td>
<td>Trivia Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th June</td>
<td>Movie Mania Night</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Youth Group is available to students from Year 5 and lower secondary school. If you have any questions please contact:
Sally Kirstine 0403 282 630
Louise 5175 0877
Leah 0438 811 709
Rachel 0499 077 735
Mel 0408 499 012
Ben 0439 371 148

St. Michael’s Parish Mum’s Group

A great place to meet other mum’s and have some fun with the kids.
Come and enjoy fellowship, friendship and food!
We meet every Wednesday during school terms at St. Michael’s, Mary Mackillop Hall.
Time 10am – 12noon.
Any inquiries to Jen Hanratty 51761178, Pam Pinel 0409168516 or Lou Varsaci 0414540296

All welcome!
Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal is bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. This year's theme is ‘Food For Life’ and St Gabriel's school has made a very positive start to supporting this campaign.

**WHY DO WE PARTICIPATE IN FUNDRAISING VENTURES LIKE PROJECT COMPASSION AT ST GABRIEL’S?**

Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. The Beatitudes (The Gospel according to Matthew 5:3-10) are at the heart of Jesus’ preaching and shed light on the actions and characteristics of Christian life:

![The Beatitudes](image)

The students have initiated many fund-raising activities with aim to raise $2000.00 by the end of the term. Such examples include:

~ Gemma, Lara and Indi in 3/4HE have a ‘guess the lollies in the jar’ competition, a raffle and a lucky dip. “We believe that if more people do what we do, we will be able to raise more money for Caritas”.

~ Leon and Liam in 3/4G have sold cupcakes in their classroom.

~ The children in 3/4D baked and sold goodies: Hudson sold gingerbread men, Abby made healthy fruit sticks, Elodie cooked ANZC biscuits, Thomas baked honey joys and rumballs and Ella B made cupcakes. More fundraising is set for the rest of the term.

Thank you to our students and parents for the wonderful support offered to this important cause.
AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students on achieving a Class Award for STRENGTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS AWARDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td>Axel Langstaff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Alice Poole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Riley Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2F</td>
<td>Ethan Crookes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2KL</td>
<td>Deborah Falano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2J</td>
<td>Kayla Dukes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2N</td>
<td>Hollie Nicholls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2P</td>
<td>Lilykate Lund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2Q</td>
<td>Zaidee McDermott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Ruby Tosch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4D</td>
<td>Tiger Belle Doultree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4HE</td>
<td>Marcus Cropley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4G</td>
<td>Leon Kamanyi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4I</td>
<td>Dempsey Blair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Oliver Cowley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Trista Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Billie Mudita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6K</td>
<td>Heidi Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6R</td>
<td>Ellie Beechey-Danvers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6W</td>
<td>Liam Byrne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRINCIPAL AWARD

As a way of keeping the NED message of:
Never give up (focus, persistence)
Encourage others (kindness, shared learning)
Do your best (diligence, excellence)
avive in everything we do and say here at school, we have a weekly raffle.
Congratulations to Ben Del Piccolo 3/4I

CASSE AWARD
As a way of promoting our work in CASSE, each week we will draw a raffle at assembly. The CASSE award recognises the efforts by a student to help build a caring, safe and supportive school environment. Congratulations to Amity Blair from 5/6R

Value of the Week is STRENGTH
Congratulations to the following children Ryan Bosch 5/6W who received their Awards.

Aussie of the Month
Congratulations to NAME for receiving Aussie of the Month for the Month of February. Well done!
Many of our children participated in the Life Education sessions during these past few days. There were some classes that missed out due to Jan the educator needing to take urgent family leave. These children have been rescheduled for next term. A snapshot of grade one/two participating in their Life Ed class can be viewed in this school newsletter. Below is some information on the focus of each level’s lessons.

**Year Prep**
Harold’s friend Possum holds a party in the park and invites the class and Harold to come along. The students use our realistic props to help Harold pack healthy picnic food, and on their way to the party respond to new situations and dilemmas around health and safety, presented on specially produced videos.

- ways to seek help from trusted adults
- the benefits of physical activity
- how to spot safe and unsafe behaviours and environments
- choosing healthy food options

**Year One & Two**
Harold recruits the class as the newest members of his Super-Hero Team. Free from distractions, the class become absorbed in tackling challenges such as exploring the effect of second hand smoke and identifying how to ‘fly to the rescue’ in an emergency.

- recognising safe and unsafe behaviours
- the effects of second hand smoke on the body
- awareness of the safe use and storage of medicines
- emergency procedures such as how to call 000
- healthy food choices

**Year Three & Four**
This module focuses on cybersafety, cyber ethics and building positive relationships with friends online and offline. The students explore a range of issues such as password security, risks of sharing personal information, how to communicate respectfully both online and offline, and strategies to handle bullying including cyberbullying.

- responsible and respectful behaviour when using communication technology
- skills for building positive relationships with friends
- keeping personal information safe online • strategies to deal with bullying and cyberbullying
- exploring the role of bystanders

**Year Five & Six**
Using distinctive animated and vox-pop videos, this module tackles the topic of drinking alcohol in an age appropriate context. Students explore concepts such as the effect that alcohol has on body systems, myths and facts about alcohol, laws relating to its sale and reasons why people choose not to consume alcohol.

- myths and facts surrounding the use of alcohol
- strategies for responding to encouragement or pressure to drink
- physical, social and legal consequences of alcohol use
- strategies to reduce harmful effects of alcohol on self and others

We are also participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying on Friday the 20th of March. As it happens Harmony Day falls on Saturday 21st of March and we are recognising both on the Friday. The children will be asked to wear orange clothing and will be engaging in their Care Groups for 2015. A whole school assembly will take place afterwards where our school community will share their conversations and activities that have taken place. The CASSE team will be presenting a Catching CASSE Moments presentation at the assembly. We all love our PEACEFUL school.

A link is attached below to give you some more information about the National Day of Action against Bullying.


We all love our PEACEFUL school!
Swimming

On Monday the 23rd February, a group of swimmers competed in the District Swimming carnival at the Traralgon Outdoor Pool. The students that represented our school did a fantastic job, with the school finishing second overall behind St. Pauls. A number of children made it through to the next level in both individual and relay events.

On Thursday the 26th of February, the children who made it through competed against children from all the schools in Latrobe Valley. Again, the children did a wonderful job. Congratulations to Jordyn Cargill, Ben Fleming, Luke Healy, Jesse Lee, Molly Cargill, Gemma Bezzina, Ashleigh Mihaly and Claudia Lee who made it through to compete in the Regional Swimming completion in Sale next week.

National Ride2School Day 2015

Active transport is a great way to encourage a healthy lifestyle amongst students and the wider school community. Whether they ride or scoot all the way, or part way, it’s a great way for all students to get active, learn new skills and increase their confidence.

National Ride2School Day is set for Friday 13th March 2014 and is a fantastic opportunity to encourage active travel within your school community. The day celebrates those who already actively travel to school and encourages those who don’t to start.
Our visit to the Life Education van was very exciting!

In our class discussion beforehand, we came up with many wonderings about what Harold and Jan would be showing and teaching us. “Harold’s Heroes” was the title of our lesson.

Jan met us at the door of the van and we came in quietly. Harold was really happy to see us and we were all smiling too. He told us we could be his heroes. Everyone got to try on and wear a special coloured, sparkly cape and we flew ourselves into different situations.

Jan helped us to solve problems around many different kinds of emergency situations. We had to think of the best way to deal with them. It was great when we solved the problem and everybody was safe.

We know how to give information and tell other people when we need help, when we can’t do things on our own.
Positive Behaviour Support Workshop

For Parents and Carers of Children and Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder
(see eligibility criteria below)

Aspect Victoria is pleased to offer our highly successful, contemporary, evidence-based three (3) day Autism specific Positive Behaviour Support Workshop in the Southern Region of Victoria.

More than 1200 families have participated in Aspect’s Positive Behaviour Support workshops across Australia. Post workshop evaluations showed an effectiveness of the workshops, with participants reporting decreases in challenging behaviours and increases in confidence and capacity to support their children and young adults.

When: 17th, 18th & 19th March 2015
Where: Federation Training Conference Centre
GippsTAFE Academy - 49-63 Princes St, Traralgon VIC 3844
Time: 9:30am-2:30pm (9:15am for registration)
Cost: FREE (Tea, coffee & biscuits provided ~ participants to bring own lunch)
Registration: Register online at www.autismspectrum.org.au/content/events-and-workshops

Eligibility to participate in this Workshop:
- Parents or carers of children and young adults aged between 6 - 25 years, diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- The individual with ASD must be living at home
- Participating families are encouraged to invite professionals or service providers working with them to attend the workshop

Families participating in this workshop will:
- Develop an understanding of autism and how an ASD impacts upon learning and behaviour
- Learn how to be proactive by creating an autism friendly environment at home
- Learn how to write an autism specific behaviour support plan for one of their child’s behaviours
- Learn how to write a plan to respond confidently when challenging behaviour occurs
- Learn how to teach new skills to promote their child’s independence and quality of life

Enquiries:
Contact Amber Day – Workshop Administrator or Heather Kirkhope - Service Coordinator
Phone: 03 9377 6600 or email: aday@autismspectrum.org.au

What participants say about Aspect Positive Behaviour Support Workshops:

“Brilliant information and concrete strategies to use, thank you. I have learnt very important self-reflection, being able to step back and really look at and examine behaviour, so valuable. I really value the focus on being positive and improving my child's, my own and my family’s quality of life. Great workshop – I will highly recommend it to others.”

“Fantastic presentation. Very interactive, affirming & capacity building. Ideas not just discussed but taught how to follow through on.”

“Best information session on Autism I have been to. So much clarity about getting to the core behaviour, unpeeling the onion. Enjoyed all the visuals. Thank you so much.”

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Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) ABN 12 000 637 267
Aspect Victoria Suite 2B, Level 2, 12 Hall Street Moonee Ponds VIC 3039 | PO Box 1119 Moonee Ponds VIC 3039 | T 03 9377 6600 W www.autismspectrum.org.au

Aspect Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is Australia's largest not for profit autism specific service provider.
Aspect has been funded by the Department of Human Services to provide a range of positive behaviour support programs across Victoria.
LIBRARY NEWS: CLEAN UP DAY

CLEAN UP OUR SCHOOL DAY
POSTER COMPETITION WINNERS
5/6A—Ayva Duddington / Meg Watts
Jacob Collison
5/6H—Matthew Llewelyn / Liam Jones-Sullivan
Jamie Welbourne / Billie Mudita
5/6K—Zac Watson
Emma Hill / Kelsey Peterson
5/6R—Maitland McStay / Alana Morley
Chloe McShane
5/6W—Kayla Francolino / Shannon Ryan
Sam Pollerd
These children all received gift vouchers donated by Stockland Traralgon valued at $20.

There were special effort prizes awarded to these children as well:

5/6A Ella Hill
5/6H Shona Keen
5/6K Heidi Winter / Lara Bamford
5/6R Matilda Lund / Lana Barnes
5/6W Madeline Smith / Athena Kavadias

Congratulations to all these children who produced a high level of QUALITY WORK in their posters.

Once again I would like to thank Stockland Traralgon for their continued support in this great community event of Clean Up Our School Day.

TERM 1 DATES

Friday 6th March, 2015
School Closure

Monday 9th March, 2015
LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday 10th March
AFL Clinic Year 3 & 4

Wednesday 11th March, 2015
St. Gabriel’s Athletics
Eucharist Workshop 2

Thursday 12th March
Region Swimming
SPECIAL FOOD DAY ORDERS DUE TODAY

Friday 13th March
The following classes will NOT be required to attend school due to relocation of classrooms:
Prep A, S and C
Grades 3/4B, G, HE and I.

Friday 13th March
Bushies Bakery Hot Cross Bun orders due today

Saturday 14th March & Sunday 15th March
Eucharist

Tuesday 17th March, 2015
St. Patrick’s Day
School Board Meeting 6pm

Thursday 19th March
St. Joseph’s Feast Day
SPECIAL FOOD DAY

Friday 20th March
Harmony Day. National day against Bullying

Tuesday 24th March
District Athletics

Wednesday 25th March
The Annunciation of the Lord
EASTER RACELE DRAW 2.30PM

Thursday 26th March
Back up Day for Athletics

Friday 27th March, 2015
End of Term 1 at 12.30pm
Noticeboard

Piano—Keyboard—Guitar Tuition
If your child would like to have Piano, Keyboard or Guitar lesson in 2015, lesson available during school time. Please contact Peter Winter on 5174 8237 or Mobile 0407 563 634 for further details.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB
Scholastic Bookclub orders forms have been distributed to students. Orders are due back no later than Monday 12th March.

SOUTHSIDE FOOTBALL CLUB
"The home of the mighty Demons"

Are looking for Under 12 players. If you are interested in playing contact Matt Lee on 0457 342 326.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT THE LIBRARY
The Latrobe City Library Service is hosting a great holiday program for all school children in April.

Week One:
Red the clown—Tuesday 31st March
Traralgon Library—10.30-11.15 am

Week Two:
Cha Cha Sam—in POSTCARDS FROM NANNA—Tuesday 7th April
Traralgon Library at 10.30 am- 11.30 am

OSHCare 4 KIDS– Grey St OSHC Program
Program Number: 0437 009 155
BSC operates from 7am to 9am each morning and
ASC from 3pm till 6pm each weekday.

What’s On This Week
We are off and around the world this week from Asia to Egypt. Come make a totem pole and paper cortado.
We’ll play games from Greece and North America and lots more.
Try your luck at the chopsticks game!
Our program offers a yummy weekly menu for
BSC and ASC. Fresh fruit and vegetables are
always a healthy choice at OSHC and some of our other snacks include Mini pizzas,
Damper and Cinnamon Scones. BSC enjoy toast, cereal or pop tarts.

Just remember BSC/ASC can cost you as little as $7.50 per session/ per child

WOW what great value!

EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Just a reminder that we are now taking online bookings for our Fun and Exciting April Holiday Program. A few of the themed days include; Extreme Fun Adventure, Wacky Science, My Kitchen Rules and there will even be an excursion happening to ‘Clip n Climb’.

OSHCare 4 KIDS
(03) 9758 6744 | admin@oshcare4kids.com.au
Website: www.oshcare4kids.com.au
For ASC/BSC Bookings, please email enrolment@oshcare4kids.com.au

Traralgon Netball Association
Winter Season 2015
Call for Team Enrolments

Entries close – Friday 20 March 2015
St Michaels School Hall, Church Street, Traralgon.
4.00pm – 5.30pm

Tear application forms can be obtained by contacting the TNA Register on
tgonetballassoc@hotmail.com.au or a hard copy can be picked up from Crowe Horwath Accountants, Grey Street, Traralgon.

Competition Commences
Thursday 18th April 2015
NET SET GO for 5 - 8yr olds

- NET-SET-GO Registration will be held at Agnes Berret Reserve outside on the courts.
- Friday 6 March and 4pm and 17 April Each registration session will be 4pm-5pm.
- COST - $60 to be paid at registration.

NOTE: All bookings will be held on Tuesday 17th March from 5.30pm-7.30pm at St Michaels School Hall, Church Street, Traralgon. All Net Set Go enquiries to Eunice on 5197 7326 or email
tgonetballassoc@hotmail.com.au

For all enquires please email
(03) 9758 6744
admin@oshcare4kids.com.au