Dear Parents

One of our values that we are hoping the community will exhibit is tolerance. Michael Grose’ article below gives us some strategies to build tolerance in our children. Tolerance: a vital ingredient for your child’s success. Kids who accept differences in others are setting themselves up for success in the world of diversity that they will enter.

Want your child to be successful way past the confines of the school gate? Then you need to make sure your child is tolerant of individual differences and accepting of children and adults who look and act differently to them. There’s no doubt that success in today’s world depends on the ability to understand, appreciate and work with others. The child who is open to differences is likely to have more opportunities in school, in business and in life in general.

Schools are diverse places
Walk into any school ground in Australia and you’ll witness diversity firsthand. You’re likely to see children from many different cultural, racial and family backgrounds. You’ll also see kids with different needs and diverse ways of expressing themselves. Some kids will wear their hearts on their sleeves, while others will be taciturn and quiet. Tolerant kids are accepting of these differences. They make friends with children and young people who may look and act differently to them.

Intolerance breeds bullying
Intolerance, or prejudice, is at the heart of a great deal of the bullying that occurs among children and young people. Kids who look and act differently or who are more isolated often experience bullying for no apparent reason other than the fact that they are ‘different’. Whole-hearted acceptance and even appreciation of differences is a preventative bullying measure that we can all support.

Tolerance starts at home
Kids learn attitudes such as tolerance from those around them. Children in primary school usually reflect the attitudes of their parents. While adolescents are strongly influenced by their peers, parental attitudes still have a significant impact on their attitudes to other people. In short, if you want your child to be accepting of differences – whether they are racial, cultural, behavioural or in sexual orientation – then make tolerance a family trait. Here’s how:

Help your child feel accepted, respected, and valued.
When your child feels good about himself, he is more able to treat others respectfully.

Model acceptance.
Kids learn what they live so make sure you welcome differences in others, and be sensitive to cultural or racial stereotypes. It also helps on a practical level to discuss prejudice and stereotypes when they occur in the media.

Challenge prejudice or narrow-minded views.
Sometimes kids, knowingly or unknowingly, can say the cruelest things about others. As a parent respectfully remind your child or young person about the impact that a narrow view can have on his or her own behaviour as well as on those it may be directed towards.

Intolerance of diversity is an attitude that parents should make a stand against.

Answer kids’ questions about differences honestly and respectfully.
Teach your kids that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.

Respect individual differences within your own family.
Your ability to accept your children’s differing abilities, interests and styles will go a long way towards establishing an attitude of tolerance in the children themselves. By valuing the uniqueness of each member of your family you are teaching your kids to value the strengths in others, no matter how diverse.

Modern Australia is such a wonderful culturally-rich place. This diversity is part of its magic. One way to make sure our children fully appreciate this richness is to fully embrace tolerance in everything we do.

We wish our Year 6 students and their teachers every blessing as they participate in their camp at Coolamatong this week. The camp activities help to build relationships, see each other in a different light, provide opportunities for the children to try new things and to step outside of their comfort zone and to learn and encounter a whole range of different experiences. May God watch over them and keep them safe.

Another quote from Stongersmarter
If you knew you were going to die…. What would you regret most.

Keep smiling.
Cathy Blackford
Principal
Our school photos will be taken on Wednesday, 18th March 2015.
A note was sent home today with the envelope from the photographer outlining prices and packages if you wish to order photographs.

This year there is the option for prepayment and online ordering of school photos. Please following the instructions on the back of your child’s envelope (their unique ‘Shoot Key’ is found on the front of the envelope) www.johnansell.com.au

If you wish to have a family group photo taken please collect a “Sibling Group Photo” envelope from the school office.

Children will wear their summer uniforms. Girls in their summer dresses and wearing school colour hair ties and ribbons. Boys are to wear their red polo tops and grey shorts. The photographer will start at 9.00am sharp so children will need to be at school on time.

Art Auction 2015
In 2015, it has been suggested that we conduct a St Michael’s Art Show and Auction. The event would be a social evening as well as an opportunity to fundraise for the school. The art included in the auction would be created from contributions from each child within the school.

For the project to be successful, we will require support from our school community. Whilst the art would be created during visual art lessons, a committee would be responsible for providing support with the assembling of the art and framing of each piece. If you think you would be interested in supporting this project (or if you have family members who may be interested), please contact me at school either in person, by phone or by email jhanraha@stmtralgon.catholic.edu.au. No prior skills are necessary, just a willingness to lend a hand and have some fun. Working bees for the project would be held both during the day and at night to allow as many people as possible to be involved. Hopefully we will get a great response and our inaugural art auction will be a great social and financial success. (Jenny Hanrahan)

On Friday, 20th March 2015 St Michael’s School will be one of many schools throughout Australia who have registered for the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. This day provides an opportunity for our school to focus on working together to provide a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community.

Understanding the importance of respectful relationships as part of a safe and supportive environment, the children will be involved in multi age activities between recess and lunch. These activities provide an opportunity for the children to participate in a variety of activities alongside students from all grade levels. Between 2.00pm and 3.00pm, parents are invited to come into the classrooms to join the children in learning activities focussing on our anti bullying message. Parents can access further information about this national day of action against bullying and violence by visiting the Bullying, No Way! website http://bullyingnoway.gov.au

St Michael’s Parish   The Piety Stall on the Kay Street side of the Church will be open for family and friends who would like to purchase gifts and cards, etc. for the children who will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist on 14th/15th March & 21st/22nd March 2015. As well as the following dates and times the Piety Stall is open after each of the weekend Masses.
The Piety Stall will be open from 12.30pm to 3.00pm on: 11th, 13th March 2015
For further information please call Lyn Kennedy on 5174 5848 or 0411 149 030
Last Friday our School Athletics Carnival was cancelled due to the wet weather that had set in. The senior and junior students 800m event was the only one completed.

_The School Athletics Carnival is now rescheduled to Thursday, 19th March 2015 and the Athletics Carnival will be held in the School grounds._

We extend a very grateful thank you to the parents who helped set up for the Athletics last Friday and the many people to helped pack up the shelters and sports equipment in the rain. Thank you also to the parents who assisted with walking the students to and from the event. The support we receive from our school community is always inspiring.

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**Dates to Remember**

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<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>11th Wed Eucharist Parent/Child Wkshp 2</td>
<td>13th Mon Term 2 commences</td>
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<td>11th Wed School Board Meeting</td>
<td>22nd Wed Confirmation – Parent Meeting</td>
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<td>12th Thurs Regional Swimming</td>
<td>25th/26th Sat/Sun Confirmation Commitment Mass</td>
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<td>13th Fri Ride2School Day</td>
<td>29th Wed Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop 1</td>
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<td>13th Fri Year 6 return from Camp</td>
<td>MAY</td>
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<td>14th/15th Sat/Sun Sacrament of First Eucharist</td>
<td>8th Fri Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<td>16th Mon NOTE: P&amp;F – AGM - 2.00pm</td>
<td>12th Tues NAPLAN commences</td>
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<td>18th Wed School Photos</td>
<td>20th Wed Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop 2</td>
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<td>19th Thurs School Athletic Carnival at school</td>
<td>22nd/23rd Fri/Sat Sacrament of Confirmation</td>
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<td>19th Thurs Family Picnic Tea at School 5:30</td>
<td>26th Tues 2016 Prep Expo – 7.00pm</td>
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<td>20th Fri National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence</td>
<td>27th Wed Dist Cross Country</td>
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<td>20th Fri Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>JUNE</td>
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<td>20th Fri Dist/Division Tennis</td>
<td>8th Mon Public Holiday</td>
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<td>21st/22nd Sat/Sun Sacrament of First Eucharist</td>
<td>9th Tues School Closure – Staff PD day</td>
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<td>23rd Mon Year 3/4 leave for Camp</td>
<td>10th Wed District Winter Sports</td>
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<td>24th Tues Year 3/4 return from Camp</td>
<td>16th Tues Division Winter Sports</td>
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<td>24th Tues Grade Prep – incursion at school</td>
<td>26th Fri Last day of Term 2</td>
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<td>26th Thurs District Athletics</td>
<td>JULY</td>
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<td>27th Fri Last day of Term 1</td>
<td>13th Mon Term 3 commences</td>
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<td>16th Thurs Kinder Kids Reading commences</td>
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**SUPPAUT**

Latrebe Region Parent/Family Support group for those who have kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Latrebe SDS Hickox St Traralgon enter @ 1st gate & sign in at office

March 26th 10:30am – 12:30pm

ALL WELCOME TO COME FOR A CUPPA AND A CHAT!

Contact Louise Varsaci 51750877 varsaci@aussiebb.com.au Join our group on Facebook – SuppAUT Autism support group for families in Latrobe Valley Victoria
Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal

Good Friday Appeal Hug a Mug 300ml stoneware mug covered in multi coloured Welby characters. Packaged in matching gift box. $5 each

If anyone would like to order a mug/s please enclose money and order details in an envelope and hand in at the school office. Michelle Quail will organize a bulk order to support RCH Good Friday Appeal. You can approach Michelle in person, or by mobile 0448 936 769 or email jm.quail@bigpond.com

All funds and orders will need to be in to the school office or Michelle by Monday 16th March. All proceeds will go towards the TRARALGON total for the Good Friday Appeal.

GIVE THAT THEY MAY GROW

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity for Australian students and school communities to embrace a healthier start and to try walking and riding to school for themselves.

On Friday 13 March 2015 we’ll be celebrating the ninth National Ride2School Day event, where over 300,000 Australian students, just like ours, will ride, walk, scoot or skate to school.

We would love for as many students as possible to make an effort to ride, scoot or walk to school on this day.

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
- Morwell Library 1 pm-1.45 pm
- Moe Town Hall 3 pm-3.45 pm

**Week Two:** *Cha Cha Sam* in *POSTCARDS FROM NANNA.*

**Tuesday 7th April**

- Traralgon Library at 10.30 am-11.30 am
- Moe Town Hall at 2.30 pm -3.30 pm

**Wednesday 8 April**

- Churchill Library at 10:30 am -11.30 am
- Morwell Library at 2:30 pm -3.30 pm

SOUTHSIDE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB are looking for players to join their 2015 Under 12 team.

**Must be born in 2003 or 2004**

All enquiries to Club Secretary Vicky Atlee on 0439 749 909
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

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

Competition Commences
Saturday 18th April 2015

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NET SET GO for 5 - 8yr olds

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

COST - $60 to be paid at registration

Net Set Go Upskills Coaching Session 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 7327. Starts 2 May 2015.

All competition inquiries to
0437 750806 after 5pm or email
tgonnetballassoc@hotmail.com.au

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Tyers Lightning
JUNIOR SOCCER

NOW RECRUITING FOR 2015!

Registrations are now being accepted for the 2015 Soccer season. We are looking for both boys and girls for the following age groups:

Under 7’s  Under 9’s
Under 11’s Under 14’s
Under 13’s  Under 18’s

Please phone Narelle on
0439 372 7322 for further information and training details.

Ages 5+, all abilities welcome!

Training Commences @ Tyers Soccer Ground
Thursday 12th March, 5pm
NETBALL SUPER TRAINING WITH THE STARS
Traralgon Eater School Holiday Netball Clinic
Monday 30th March 2015

Featuring 2014 ANZ Championship Grand Finalists and Australia Diamonds
Catherine Cox, Madison Robinson and Bianca Chatfield

train and learn with best

Cath Cox
Cath played regularly for the Australian national team since her first appearance in 1997 and is one of only four players with more than 100 test matches under her belt. Two World Championships and one Commonwealth Games gold medal, 5 Australian Championships under her belt – the latest with Melbourne Vixens in 2014 following which she announced her retirement.

Madison Robinson
The undisputed best midcourter in the world, Madison captained Australia to the 2009 World Youth Championships and made her international debut in 2010 on the Diamonds’ UK tour where she earned the Player of the Match accolade in her first Test against Scotland in Glasgow. In 2012 Madison won the Holden Australian International Player of the Year award, Australian ANZ Championship Player of the Year award and the prestigious LIT Ellis Diamond, the highest individual honour in Australian netball. Her career reached a pinnacle in 2014 with her first ANZ Championship title with the Melbourne Vixens and then claiming a Commonwealth Games gold medal.

Bianca Chatfield

Bianca is one of the youngest ever to have debuted for the Australian Diamonds at the age of only 18. She has made a name for herself on the court as one of the toughest defenders in the country, and as one of the most respected leaders in women’s sport.

CLINIC DETAILS

- Monday 30th March – 2 session times (see below)
- All enquiries and bookings to Jenni Rohde, 0437750806 or jen.rohde@bigpond.com
- Location of clinic – St Pauls Anglican Grammar School, Crosses Road, Traralgon, in the gymnasium/stadium.
- Places offered on a first in first served basis. Correct money to be paid on the day – cash only. Final cost will be sent to players upon confirmation of places in the clinic.
- This is a closed session and each player is allowed one parent/guardian to be with them at the clinic due to space restrictions.

JUNIOR PLAYERS - 8 to 12 years
- 10AM – 12 noon
- Cost $60 - $65 p.p (depending on numbers)
- Autographs and photos at the commencement of the clinic
- Learn centre court work, shooting and netball defence

SENIOR PLAYERS - 13 – 17 years
- 12.30PM – 2.30PM
- Cost $60 - $65 p.p (depending on numbers)
- Autographs and photos at the commencement of the clinic
- Learn centre court work, shooting and netball defence

Detach and complete form if sending by mail – copy and paste into email if replying by email

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TRARALGON SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHOOL NETBALL CLINIC WITH CATH COX, MADISON ROBINSON AND BIANCA CHATFIELD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player Name:</th>
<th>Age:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian Name:</td>
<td>Player DOB:</td>
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<td>Address:</td>
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| Parent/Guardian email: |
| Mobile Tel: |
| School attending: |
| I play (please circle) | SHOOTER | MID COURT | DEFENCE |

I am enrolling for the [ ] JUNIOR CLINIC  [ ] SENIOR CLINIC (please tick)

Completed forms to be emailed to Jenni Rohde at jen.rohde@bigpond.com or mailed to Jenni Rohde, 5 Castlereagh Crt, Traralgon, Victoria, 3844.

No money to be sent with registration - payable on the day cash only

Registrations close Sunday 22nd March. Places will be confirmed via email following the close of registrations before Sunday 29th March 2015.

Note: Places within the clinic are limited to 60 participants per session to ensure players receive quality time and instruction with the players.