

**St Michael's Catholic
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THE LINK

***A fortnightly Newsletter for the pupils, parents
and staff of St Michael's Catholic College***

Issue 117 24th March 2016

Principal's Easter Message

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to wish you all a wonderful and peaceful Easter.

This term has been exceedingly hectic with preparation for exams for Year 11, 12 and 13 while the rest of the College has been busy with day to day learning. It is important therefore in our exacting lives that we do not forget the meaning of Easter.

On Thursday of this week all students will participate in services where Year 10 will act out the Passion of Christ. I am conscious that many Catholics concentrate on the crucifixion and Good Friday, as does our service, since it tells the story of the bloody and painful death of Jesus, who gave up his life for all. However while the passion is a key part, I think Maundy Thursday and the Resurrection highlight a lot to us as Christians in schools.

In the Catholic religion Thursday sees the liturgy of the washing of feet, which began in the early churches and continued over the years in monastic life and in the hierarchy of the Church. In recent times it has come to represent and be linked with the Last Supper, while in 2014 Pope Francis revised the practice of feet washing so that it could include women as well as men. The purpose of foot washing however cannot only be seen in terms of humility, but rather as a way of explaining how all people must relate to each other as followers of Christ and as a Community. For schools it reminds us of the essence of our faith and that our life is not simply about exams and being busy. Linked with this is the Resurrection which exemplifies hope; a vital quality for our students to have real success.

For those of you who are gardeners Easter is also a time when flowers bloom, trees and shrubs begin to leaf, songbirds return from Winter hibernation and there is new birth. Easter therefore, which includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Resurrection offers spiritual and physical renewal at a time when there is possible confusion. They offer our schools a different path for all.

A Celebration of Irish Music

On Monday 21st March, the college was fortunate to be able to host a recital by musicians from Broadford Youth Choir, Co. Limerick during a special assembly.

The music was a celebration of Irish heritage and also included performances of Irish dancing and a traditional "Brush Dance". They played a harp, violin, piano, accordion and the Cahon as well as songs by their choir of over twenty students.



St Michael's band and choir also performed a range of pieces, including Uptown Funk and California Dreaming, along with solo performances on the Cello and Piano.

This was a great experience for the college and for our students. There are more pictures of this visit on the College Website in the Gallery Section.

Chaplain's Corner - What is happening in the Diocese this Easter

Taking place on the 24th April in St George's Cathedral is an event for all those Confirmed during this Year of Mercy. Join Archbishop Peter Smith for an afternoon of catechesis, testimony, prayer and music. Meet other young Catholics as we reflect on the faces of mercy in our lives.



24th April - 3pm – 5pm, followed by refreshments in Amigo Hall.

Under 18s must be accompanied by a group leader

Be assured of our prayers this Lent and into the Easter season. Please keep us and each other in your prayers as we prepare to journey to Calvary with Christ and celebrate the joy of the resurrection on Easter morning.

Year of Mercy Youth Event
with Archbishop Peter Smith
24th April 2016

the Father ALMIGHTY creator of heaven and earth
JESUS his only Son, our Lord
The Holy Spirit

WHOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Communion of Saints
FORGIVENESS OF SINS
RESURRECTION
LIFE EVERLASTING AMEN

'I Believe'
at St George's Cathedral

Year 8 Quarter Final Football - London Cup

On Friday 18th of March the Year 8 Football team took part in the quarter finals of the London Cup against Kingsdale School. It was a close game but St Michael's came out winners with goals from Michael Adefolami and Julian Sarmiento-Ramirez. The final score was 2-3 to St Michael's. This was a great result as both teams wanted to qualify for the semi-finals and we are used to playing on St Michael's astro turf pitches not the Greenhouse pitch at Burgess Park which was huge.

The players voted Alana Divine and Julian Sarmiento-Ramirez the players of the match. St Michael's will now play Evelyn Grace in the semi finals... Good Luck St Michael's!!
Michael Adefolami 8HO

Sport Relief

Thank you for all your fantastic support on Friday 18th March with Sport Relief. The occasion was very special with the students raising £151. Both the rowing and jump rope activities were popular with students testing their resilience throughout. A special mention must be given to Sixth Form student Ben Hanscombe who gave up his own time to play a huge part in the running of the event.

The students (and one or two teachers) who managed to complete the 2 minute jump rope challenge were Miss B, Georgie Millet-Duffin, Kylie Guerrero, Catherine Lerma-Cortes, Golddust Addo-Mensah, Sandra Durodola, Genesis Lima Chunchu, Reme Dale-Perkins, Diana Tran, Mr Kinal, Stanley Perry, Brittany Nsongo, Agne Burokaite and Alfie Constantine. Thank you again to all those who took part and all those who donated. *Mr Heasman - Head of PE*



What is God's role in Society Today?

The theme for Articulate this year was : What is God's role in society today? A challenging topic, I am sure we would all agree. Nevertheless, the whole College, from Year 7 to Year 12 has been composing speeches on the issue – and the quality of thinking and of writing was astonishing. As usual, hot competition in forms was narrowed down to the year group semi finalists who presented their speeches to the whole of their year group. The skilled 4 who went through to the final were: Sabrina Efreem from Year 7, Shane Taylor from Year 8, Hayley Lynch from Year 9 and Teofisto Consistente Year 10.

In the final today, the competition was so tough due to the intelligence of the speeches and the power of the delivery, that Mrs Grabowski awarded two first prizes.

Congratulations therefore to Teofisto and to Hayley, joint winners of Articulate 2016 and to Sabrina and Shane the joint runners up. Well done to everyone who participated.

Dates for the Diary (subject to change)

- 24 Mar - Last day of the Spring Term
- 24 Mar - Easter Services
- 11 Apr - First day of the Summer Term
- 13 Apr - Yr 12-13 Results Evening
- 19 Apr - Yr 9 Options Evening



Direct parents access to college via email
contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk
In case of absence please phone:



Important Notice from the Child Protection Officer - there is a copy of our Safeguarding Policy on the College Website. A hard copy of this is available in the College Office.