**From the Principal**

One of the basic principles from which I operate is that all students should be exposed to a variety of experiences whilst at school.

The academic programme of the school needs to be strong and produce students who are literate and numerate; but this also needs to be complemented with other activities and events which encourage the students to discover and nurture their God given talents.

In this edition of ‘...in action’, you will read about a wide range of events and successes that have been a part of our year.

2010 has been a stellar year in the life of the school. We have achieved state champion status in both Wakakirri (story – telling through dance competition) and in girls soccer (large schools division). These achievements have been phenomenal considering we had competed against the best in the state.

Whilst we celebrated the outcomes of these two events our girl’s Pedal Prix team gained the honour of national champions for their division and the boys an overall top ten finish.

Children naturally play as part of their way of making sense of their world; making meaning and connections.

It is imperative that there is balance in all that we offer so that the students know how to learn and question, have a wide range of interests and they enjoy life and all that it offers.

I thank God for the opportunities He has given to us to develop and nurture the youth of tomorrow

In Christ,

Shane Paterson
(Principal)
A wide range of activities enable the students to be balanced in their learning.

**Wakakirri**
Wakakirri is a national story sharing arts festival for primary schools. St. Michael’s entered in the dance section of this, interpreting Nadia Wheatley’s book ‘Luke’s Way of Looking’. With the story focusing on expressing individuality the troupe performed their dance at the Entertainment Centre and gained the title of state champions. This was only the second year in which we had entered this competition.

**Concert**
Performing to 900 people over three days the annual school concert was once again an outstanding success. With a theme of dance through the ages, the students (and Principal and staff!) were risk-takers and shared their dramatic and dancing talents with the audience.

**Yr.7 Exhibition**
As a celebration of their learning journey in the Primary Years Programme the Year 7 students share their learning through the exhibition – a showcase of the skills learnt during their time at primary school. This year the class investigated the effect of urbanisation on communities, basing their studies on the proposed future development of Mt. Barker. Special visitor, Mt. Barker mayor Anne Ferguson, was stunned by the depth of knowledge and understanding the students had gained which was observable through discussions and presentations.

**Girl’s Soccer Team**
After a number of tough matches in a round robin / knockout format the girl’s soccer team gained a berth in the state final (large schools). The grand final was a tight tussle with St. Michael’s scoring the winning goal in the final 30 seconds of the match!

**Pedal Prix**
Competitors since the event began over 15 years ago, St. Michael’s fielded two teams in this year’s Pedal Prix event. Our proud tradition of top ten finishes every year continued with the girl’s team gaining the honour of national champions in their division and the boys once again finishing in the top ten (over 70 entries in the division). This is an event that is eagerly anticipated each year.
Christmas Boxes
Each year school families support the Christmas box appeal with donations of shoeboxes filled with everyday items and gifts for children in underprivileged countries. This year our boxes will be distributed in Cambodia. Over 120 boxes were collected for this project.

Grandfriends Day
A day which we all love, our annual Grandfriends day was held on a beautiful Spring day in November. During the morning grandparents and special friends receive a taste of school life with students and visitors sharing and telling stories. The day finishes with extended families coming together for lunch.

Library Opening
Our project under the BER stimulus programme was the refurbishment of our library. This was officially opened by Mr. Robert Male a former student of the school. The first of three generations who have completed their schooling at St. Michael’s, Robert was a member of the original class when the school reopened after the war in 1946.

Community Service
There are a variety of ways in which our students serve others. Throughout this year classes have visited the old folks home, helped at the Child Care centre, supported the local animal refuge. Money has been raised by all classes to support a village in Cambodia to become sustainable. These activities encourage students to be responsible and caring citizens.
CONCERT 2010

PHOTOGRAPH!