Dear Parents,

Time flies when you’re having fun. We have successfully navigated our way through the first half of the term. Our Year 7 students have been developing their goals and friendships and our class has been developing its routines, culture and norms. Many students have begun fulfilling their leadership responsibilities around the school.

Our classroom learning so far

Maths
We began the year by focusing on classifying and sorting which culminated in the students classifying and sorting the results of a maths survey. Some teams were very innovative in the way they presented their findings.

Units of Inquiry
Our class has been developing their sense of the concept of national identity as we have analysed Australian songs, poetry, various authors and texts and also a documentary on the controversial construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The students’ summative assessment is in two parts.

1) They will be asked to compose a poem on an aspect of Australian history, culture or people.
2) The students will prepare for and execute a debate on topics of Australian identity.

Christian Studies
Our central idea for Christian studies this term is: Christians pray, worship and celebrate the sacraments

We have been considering the possibility for worship’s scope in our lives and the different ways that it may look for individuals. We look forward to sharing our worship song PowerPoint presentations throughout Week 6. We also look forward to hearing from Pastor Stephen in Week 7 in regards to the symbols and sacraments used in worship in the Lutheran church.

SMT?
Year 7 students with a passion and commitment to write are forming a small working group with the purpose of stretching their writing skills. It will possibly be called The St. Michael’s Times or SMT! The students, including our class environmental officer, are very excited about this development and are looking at teaming up with our IT support staff person, Mary Whittaker, with the idea of publishing a regular environmentally friendly online news bulletin. Watch this space for further developments.

PTO
Graduation Photos
While graduation is at the end of the school year, it is something we can be preparing for now. Various presentations including images of your child are created for the graduation service. Please send in photos so that we can begin the process. It would help us greatly if you could send in the following photos before the end of Term 1. We can create digital copies and return your treasured pictures ASAP.

The students are required to provide the following photographs:
- one as a baby
- one as a toddler
- one on the first day of school
- whole class photos at St Michael’s R-6
- any past events of school life or friendship (ie. camps, excursions, special events, sport, sleepovers, birthdays etc)
- any photos of special events during the year which we would like to include in the presentations.

Class Carers
I give many thanks to our class carers, Sue Pearce, Therese Richards and Georgia Kelly. They recently met with Eddie Geering, her class carers and me to organise some events for this year. The first event was a get-together for parents of our Year 7 class at Cafe 3:16 last Monday. It was an enjoyable time for all who attended.

Canberra Trip
Term 4 Week 1
Flight leaves 3.40pm Tuesday 18th October.
Return flight arrives 7:35pm Friday 1st November.

This Year 6 and 7 tour promises to be a very enriching experience with some fun challenges thrown in. Further details will follow later this year.

Homework
Students will be given NAPLAN style questions to complete at home to familiarise them with the expected type of problem solving and the format of these tests. The NAPLAN tests are held early in Term 2.

I thank all parents who have written a note in their child’s diary when the circumstances have meant that the completion of homework has not been achievable for that student.

I look forward to continuing to work with you in the education and support of your child.
Yours in Christ,

Cam McNicol
cmnicol@stmichaels.sa.edu.au

Dates for the Diary...
- **Lawn Bowls squad training:**
  2pm Tuesday 8th, 15th and 22nd March
  This is most relevant to the squad of 16 chosen from the Year 6s and 7s.
- **Ash Wednesday Chapel service:**
  9am Wednesday 9th March
- **School Photos:**
  Thursday 17th March
- **Year 7 Student and Parent ‘Get Together’:**
  6 pm for 6:30pm start Friday 18th March
- **Sports Day:**
  1pm- 6pm Friday 25th March
- **The Lawn bowls Allick Collins Cup:**
  2pm Tuesday 29th March
- **Present Bibles to Reception Buddy class followed by Family Bush Dance:**
  6pm Saturday 9th April