Dear Parents and Students,

I am excited to welcome you to year 5. For the first semester, I will be your full-time teacher. I’ve taught years 3-7 for the past fifteen years in the United States, Austria and now Australia. Born and raised in Chicago, I’m a married mother of two primary aged children. Corin Fudali will be joining us in the second semester after the birth of her second child and we will work collaboratively after that. For now, I would like to inform you of some basic classroom information:

UOI: Our first central idea is: Advertising conveys a variety of messages that attempt to influence the way people think and act. This is an exciting unit filled with analysing advertisements, writing and creating print and television ads and exploring persuasive language. Students will begin by examining slogans and logos and creating some on Publisher. Students will be looking at audience, special effects, visual techniques, jingles, use of camera angles, body language, light and colour. Hopefully, you’ll notice more savvy consumers after this unit!

Language: Working in conjunction with our UOI, we will be reading and writing persuasive texts including advertisements, letters and essays. In grammar we will focus on clauses, processes (verbs) and participants (usually nouns). This year our school is using a new approach to spelling. Look for more information regarding our spelling program in the school newsletter.

Maths: Our main focus this term will be an exploration of patterns in numbers and shapes. We’ll look at patterns in multiples, in maths operations such as multiplying by base 10 numbers (10, 100, 1000) and in the four operations with odd and even numbers. They will identify the term (the part that repeats) and different ways to record patterns. In addition, we will continue to begin each lesson with mental computation practice.

Christian Studies: This term our central idea is: Christians believe in one God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We’ll be learning about the nature of roles of God, the relationships within the Holy Trinity and the Christian Creeds.

Creative Arts: During Creative Arts this term we will begin the year with drama activities designed to encourage the students to share their holiday experiences and to build classroom friendships. This is a great way to break the ice and create a supportive and fun classroom environment where students become confident risk takers.

Through a series of role plays and improvisation activities the students will re-familiarise themselves with IB Learner Profile and attitudes.

At the end of term 2, the Upper Primaries will be staging our school concert. A very exciting and rewarding time that requires a high level of commitment from all students involved. During term 1 we will begin our rehearsals and refine the necessary dramatic skills needed to stage a concert.

A very exciting term ahead!
Ms Sugars
PE: Welcome back kids to another school year at St Michael’s. I hope you are all well rested because the sporting calendar is looking to be extremely busy in Term 1. In week 1 we will get straight into hockey with the unit running till the end of week 3. The central idea for this unit is: Performance in a game is determined by the effective combination of game sense with technical ability sufficient to achieve a desired outcome.

Weeks 4-8 will see the students practising for sports day in the different events they will be participating in on the day. The central idea for this unit is: The ability to manipulate the body through balance and locomotion provide us with the motor skills required to participate in athletic activities.

In week 9 and 10 students will be given the opportunity to participate in attack and defend games that promote team play, strategic understanding and athletic ability. So buckle up and enjoy the ride because term 1 is going to be a ripper!!

Mr Phillips

Parent Homework: A letter was sent home with your child requesting feedback on your goals and important information about your child. I have found this to very useful information when beginning the new year. I hope to receive these soon. Please feel free to email me any or all of your answers. Your work will not be marked!

Diaries: These are expected to be used each day. Students should write homework completed each night and parents should sign it before Friday. Diaries should be returned to school each morning and placed in the tray. We can use this for communication between home and school.

Class Newsletters: I will send a newsletter home in weeks 1, 4 and 7 of each term. If you don’t receive a hard copy, please look on the school website as they are posted there.

Fruit Break: I ask that a piece of fruit or vegetable be brought to school for a morning snack. Recess is from 10:50—11:10 am and lunch in from 1:10—1:20 pm. Fruit break is not mandatory but your child might get hungry!

Sports Uniform: Sport with Mr. Phillips is scheduled for Wednesday mornings. Please remember to send your child in his/her sport uniform on that day.

Homework: Beginning in week 3, students will receive a homework grid to be completed each fortnight. The homework policy was created so students could work around their extracurricular activities during the week. Therefore, all work should be completed and handed up on alternate Fridays. For this week, I only ask for students to bring in examples of print ads from magazines or newspapers.

Art Smocks: Please return art smocks to our class as some made their way home!

Library Borrowing: This will occur each Friday afternoon.

Bible Verse: Do to others what you want them to do to you. Matthew 7:12a

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to write me in your child’s diary or via email dhall@stmichaels.sa.edu.au. I hope you have a blessed week.

Yours in Christ,
Darlene Hall