Dear Parents,

Wow! What a great and busy start to the year we have had!!

Just a quick note to let you know what has been happening in the classroom.

Our excursions to the Botanical Gardens and Mt George have been fantastic! The students' knowledge, appreciation and curiosity about plants, ecosystems, food webs, plant anatomy etc is certainly developing. A huge thank you to Mel, Lisa, Karin, Allan, Justine, Sharon, and Deb for taking the groups on their self guided tour around the gardens. Also a huge thank you to Phil Barron (Yr 7 parent) who led us on our walk in the Mt George Conservation Park, and shared with us his knowledge of local ecosystems, plants and animals. You may wish to ask your child to show you around at Mt George and share in their experience over the weekend. (It was great walking under the freeway!!!!) You may even spot a koala just as we did!!

As you may be aware, our family church service was to be on 13th May (Mother's Day). This is currently being reviewed and I will keep you informed.

Some helpful Google searches your child will use at school for spare time are Get Smart Maths 2, Get Smart English 2, BBC Skillswise. Please feel free to use these at home too. (Sorry the actual web addresses were too long!)

On a sadder note, please keep Kyle in your prayers as he recovers from injury, the Krieg family as they mourn the loss of a family member and for the speedy recovery of our coughs and colds.

Yours in Christ

Karyn
We are going to the Botanical Gardens on Monday, 13th February as part of our first inquiry for the year. If you are available to help with this excursion, please let me know asap bearing in mind your mandatory reporting and police check are current. Please keep an eye out for the consent notice and return asap. Thanks.

We will also be walking to the Hahndorf Nursery this week to choose plants for our pots. Hope this information helps us get settled back into school quickly. Thanks. Again I am looking forward to working with you this year.

Yours in Christ,
Karyn

From Miss Sugars...
During Creative Arts this term we will start the year off with some drama activities 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 Primary's 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!

From Mr Phillips...
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 softball with the unit running till the end of week 3. The central idea for this unit is: Hand-eye coordination, technical ability and a good game sense are essential elements in becoming an efficient softball player.

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