Welcome to the fourth edition of our CELC newsletter for 2014. We hope to inform you of upcoming events and reflect on some past experiences.

Mother’s Day
Our celebration of all things Mum started with conversations between children and educators about what would you do or give mum on mother’s day? These conversations are documented and on display at the entry of the CELC. Our CELC literacy focus centred on the story “Me and My Mum” by Alison Ritchie and Alison Edgson. The literacy experience flowed beautifully into the children choosing gifts for mum from our mother’s day stall. Another feature of our Mother’s Day celebrations was holding an afternoon tea for the mother’s on Thursday afternoon. (8th May). The afternoon tea was a time for mother’s to spend with their children playing in the CELC.
We hope that all of the Mother’s of our CELC community had a very special day on Sunday.

CELC Curriculum
At the end of last term we held a parent information event to explain the CELC curriculum. We covered topics like what is our CELC curriculum and how does it come to life in our environment? Our CELC philosophy and daily routine. Do we prepare children for the transition to formal schooling? And how? The links between the CELC curriculum and the outcomes of the syllabus documents for formal schooling.
For the families whom attended I hope this experience enabled you to ask questions, seek clarification and connect with the teaching team of the CELC in order to understand the intentions of our philosophy and practice.

Asthma Foundation PJ Day Tuesday 6th May
A huge congratulations to our CELC children and families, we have raised $64.00 for vital Asthma research and support programs. A cheque will be sent to the Asthma Foundation NSW on behalf of our Tuesday CELC friends and families.
Link to EYLF : Outcome 2: Children are connected to and contribute to their world.

Maternity Leave Replacement
Miss Pinar’s final day at CELC will be Friday 23rd May, 2014. We wish her well as she takes the next step in her journey towards parenthood. We had 32 applicants for the temporary contract and have offered interviews to applicants whom met the essential criteria. These interviews are scheduled for Wednesday 14th May. We will inform families of Miss Pinar’s temporary replacement once a decision has been reached.

Guardian Funerals
Donation of 4 litres of SPF 30+ sunscreen to the CELC.
Furey Family
Donation of straws and plastic trays
Gardoll Family
Donation of magazines

Thank you – you're a star

Have you returned your child’s USB?
We have some USB devises that have not been returned. These devise store all of your child’s documentation. Could you please return the verbatim USB drives to CELC ASAP.

Link to EYLF : Outcome 2: Children are connected to and contribute to their world.

Donation of straws and plastic trays
Gardoll Family
Donation of magazines
CELC Parent Meeting
We will be holding our parent meeting for the week of 16th June. This is an opportunity for families to discuss their educational goals with their child’s focus teacher.
If you are considering sending your child to school in 2015, this is a prime opportunity to discuss their progress and confidence with meeting the expectations of a traditional classroom environment.
Please see Miss Raelene to book an appointment.

CELC Parent Library
CELC St Michael’s has created a parent library to assist you in your parental role, and to connect you to the local community. You will find resources on Asthma, Allergies and Anaphylaxis, Blacktown community support networks, Catholic Care Services, behaviour management and food and nutrition. You are able to borrow these resources from the CELC. Please see a team member to assist you with the borrowing process.

In appreciation of our CELC teachers
“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.” (Albert Einstein)
A thank you for our teaching team for awakening joy, creating opportunities for provocation, and exposing children to the wonder of learning.

Outdoor Learning Environment
Hooray! We have a new natural playground. Over the last two weeks the children have enjoyed exploring the new areas with intention and purpose. We have found that the children’s play has become more purposeful and they seem more engaged with exploration and discovery.
Just a reminder that school aged children are the responsibility of parents. While we appreciate their excitement and enthusiasm for the new space we respectfully request parents supervision at all times.

Messages from Miss Raelene
Just a reminder to sign the attendance register at the CELC admin on arrival and departure. We also request that you sign in acknowledgement of absences for your children as soon as possible after the absence.
In regards to emails, blanket emails are distributed to each family as friendly reminders of when fees are due. Please disregard emails if fees have been paid.

Entry/Exit Gate
Thank you for your patience while we had our entry and exit gates fixed. They have now been fully repaired including new fence posts, hinges and springs. I apologise for the inconvenience of walking around the garden to the front gates.
When our access control gate is on the fritz we do have a plan B. Occasionally you will find the magna lock back on the access control gate. The electrical problem with the gate should be fixed immediately or within 24 hours.
Please do not hold the gate open for people who do not have an access fob. This compromises the reason we have the access control gate in the first place.

National Quality Framework
CELC St Michael’s is currently in the process of evaluating its practices against the elements of the National Quality Framework. Your feedback, input and ideas regarding goals and directions for the CELC curriculum are encouraged and incorporated into our Quality Improvement Plan.

Transition to school Information Event
As many of our families make the important decision to transition their children to formal schooling, we believe it is important to hear from Mr John Laffan (Principle of St Michael’s) and the early stage 1 teacher Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz regarding effective transition to school.
A final date has yet to be determined but this event will happen this term. (Term 2)
Parents are reminded of the following resource from ninemsn.
Holding them Back (their term not ours)
Schools Out: Forget homeschooling - this is no schooling

Survey Monkey
I am creating a survey for families to provide feedback and input into the CELC curriculum, celebrations and evaluations of processes like orientation etc. The first survey I will be posting is with regard to celebrations at CELC. Responses will be used to guide educator reflections on the learning environment and for planning of future experiences.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7MSGYLM
Celebration Survey