Dear Parents,

DATES FOR 2016
The year is flying past. Our last day for 2015 is Wednesday 16 December. All parents are invited to attend our final thanksgiving liturgy at 10am. After the liturgy parents are welcome to take their children home to begin the Christmas break.

The students in Years 1 to 6 will return to school for 2016 on Friday 29 January. Kindergarten will begin school on Monday 1 February. Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 are assessment days. All families with children in Years 1 to 6 will be required to attend school for a half hour assessment on one of those days.

KINDY 2016 BLESSING
All of our Kindergarten children starting school at St Cecilia’s in 2016 are invited by the North Harbour Parish to receive a special ‘Blessing of Kindergarten 2016’ during Mass at St Cecilia’s on Sunday 13 during the 9am Mass.

SCHOOL REPORTS
End of year Academic Reports will be emailed home next Wednesday 2 December. Parent/teacher interviews will again be offered to all parents and will be held during the week Monday 7th -11th December. End of year interviews are optional. The procedure for booking of appointments will be included in next week’s newsletter.

ST CECILIA’S VOLUNTEER AFTERNOON TEA
The staff and students at St Cecilia’s are grateful for the work of the parent body in supporting the needs of the school. To show our gratitude in a small way we are inviting all parents who have volunteered around the school in some capacity this year to attend a ‘Thank You Afternoon Tea’ on Monday 7 December at 2:15 before pick up. Please RSVP to Sue Walmsley by Friday 4 Dec for catering purposes.

CANTEEN AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR 2016
Just a reminder that the opportunity to apply for the position of Canteen/Volunteer Coordinator closes on the 30 November.
It is hoped that the role of the coordinator will be one that evolves into a managerial position over time. While we see it beginning in the same way that Ton has so ably set up we are looking for someone who has a vision for what the role can turn into. While the criterion is outlined below we are open to innovative suggestions. To begin with we will explore shopping on line with everything delivered to school to free up time. If you are at all interested please speak with Ben Easter or myself for some clarification and to discuss what might be possible.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA
- operate the canteen in accordance with the NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy
- communicate effectively with school, parents and students
- manage the financial dealings of the canteen
- apply Food Safety Standards and WHS practices
- work with the P&F to manage volunteers for parent functions
- work with the P&F to order additional supplies for school functions
- manage the second hand clothing shop

School Prayer
At St Cecilia’s Catholic School we are committed to learning together within an environment that reflects the Gospel values
God of Love, Bless our school.
Teach us to respect others and Your Creation.
Encourage us to be our best.
Inspire us to treat others the way we want to be treated.
Lead us to help people in need.
Be with us as we celebrate the many gifts You have given us.
St Cecilia, pray for us.
SCHOOL UNIFORM
We are very proud of the uniform here at St Cecilia’s. We have noticed more and more coloured sports shoes are being worn by students. Our school uniform is to wear predominately white sports shoes. If you are purchasing new shoes over the Christmas period for 2016 we ask you to please keep this in mind.  

This term our Year 6 students have completed a program of learning known as ‘Night of the Notables.’ ‘Night of the Notables’, adapted from George Betts’ Autonomous Learner Model, is a model program for talented children which is very useful for all students. In it, each student engages in an in-depth study of one famous or notable person researching widely and comprehensively on that person with a view to performing as that person on this ‘Night of the Notables’. ‘Night of the Notables’ stresses independent learning, wide and deep research, superior products, personal commitment and performance and the higher level thinking skills.  

We are inviting all families from across the school to attend the presentation of their ‘Night of the Notables’ in our school hall on 3 December at 7:00pm. An invitation has been included in this newsletter.  

In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus  
In all things may God be Glorified.  

Fran Taylor  
Principal  

Religious Education  

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE
November is the month of the Holy Souls. This month, the school community prays with love for those who have gone before us.  

Staff and families are invited to write the names of their departed loved ones-relatives and friends - in the ‘Book of Remembrance’ that sits on the ‘Sacred Space’ table in the Office Foyer.  

Our final ‘Heaven on Earth’ for 2015 will be held on Friday 27 November. Please join us for our parent reflection morning on the Gift of Wisdom. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for further details. Everyone is welcome!  

STAGE 2: YEAR 4: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODULE: ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS
For Advent:  
Students will be led to see Advent as a time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. They will explore the Advent Readings particularly the role of the prophet John the Baptist in proclaiming the coming of Jesus.  

For Christmas:  
Students are invited to share the Christmas message of love, joy and peace as they gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus God's son. It is a time that challenges us to renew our commitment to being a bearer of Christ's love to others. Students will explore the custom of exchanging Christmas gifts which is grounded in Matthew's account of the wise men's gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh given to the Christ child.  

Wednesday Parish Mass: Both Kindergarten classes attended the Parish Mass this week. Year 2W will attend the Parish Mass on Wednesday 2 December. Everyone is welcome!  

‘FAMILIES COME GATHER’ Masses
Our next ‘Families Come Gather’ Mass will be on Sunday 13 December. We will be welcoming our 2016 Kindergarten students and their families to this Mass. It would be terrific if we could offer them a wonderful St Cecilia’s welcome! Please join us.  

PRAYER ASSEMBLY: Our next Prayer Assembly will be led by 2W on Monday 30 November. This assembly will begin at 2.45pm in the Hall.
Parents, students and staff are encouraged to donate goods and gifts to the Christmas Hampers to be given to the local ‘St Vincent de Paul Society’.

These hampers will be distributed to those in need in our local community this Christmas. This year we are assembling 17 hampers.

A letter detailing this social justice initiative has been sent home with each of your children this week. Please check this letter for specific information regarding goods, gifts, assembling of hampers and due dates. Thank you for your generosity.

Monica Officer, Religious Education Coordinator

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**School News**

**UPCOMING DATES**

**November**
- Thurs 26th: Surf Day at Freshwater
- Fri 27th: Heaven on Earth Reflection 9 – 11am in Library
- Mon 30th: Kinder 2016 session 3
- Prayer Assembly 2W

**December**
- Tues 1st: Special Treats Day
- Wed 2nd: Reports home
- Thurs 3rd: Night of the Notables
- Fri 4th: Yr 6 Fun Day
- Mon 7th: P/T Interviews commence
- Tues 8th: Last day for school banking
- Thurs 10th: Yr 6 Graduation Mass 2.00 pm
- Sun 13th: Kinder 2016 Blessing Mass
- Mon 14th: Advent Liturgy Yr 3, Final Assembly, Academic Awards 9.15 am
- Tues 15th: Buddy morning tea and moving day
- Wed 16th: Thanksgiving Liturgy & Last day for students 11.30 am

**NEWS FROM THE OFFICE**

Please ensure that all school fees are paid in full by the end of November. Thank you to all parents who have paid their accounts in full.

**CHANGES TO SCHOOL BUS SERVICE NUMBERS**

From the start of Term 1 2016 the School Special bus routes that service St Cecilia’s will be renumbered to eliminate any duplication of route numbers that may have caused confusion in the past. With particular reference to our school, the new route numbers will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current route number</th>
<th>Route Description</th>
<th>New route number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>731</td>
<td>Seaforth Infants Benelong St to The Bluff</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>732</td>
<td>NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus to Seaforth</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>737</td>
<td>Seaforth Infants Benelong St to Manly</td>
<td>683</td>
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</tbody>
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**ARTIST OF THE WEEK**

This week our Artists of the Week come from Yr 4. Drop into the office foyer to view the works of art from S Fraser and H Bryant.

**SURF EDUCATION DAY**

Tomorrow is Surf Education Day. The students will be travelling by bus to Freshwater Beach for supervised beach activities. The children are to wear their swimming costume under their sports uniform and bring their underwear in a plastic bag in their excursion bag. Please ensure your child also has a towel, hat, sunscreen, thongs, fruit, morning tea, lunch and plenty of water with them.

Every child must have their own sunscreen as the application of someone else's sunscreen is not permitted. After the beach activities the students will have a picnic lunch in the playground area before returning to school.

All students must leave the beach with their class teacher. No student will be permitted to leave the beach with their parent.

All students should come to school with sunscreen already applied. There will be opportunities to reapply sunscreen during the day.

Stephanie Harding
**WEEKLY AWARDS**
We congratulate this week’s Awards’ recipients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Star of the Week</th>
<th>Merits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB:</td>
<td>D Ponfoort</td>
<td>O Toia and W Swieconek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KW:</td>
<td>O Westh</td>
<td>S Kilbey and H Hopkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1:</td>
<td>X Brady</td>
<td>A Kasalo and E Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B:</td>
<td>D Smyth</td>
<td>M Delmar and I Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2W:</td>
<td>A Rigney</td>
<td>K Smallacombe and M Kutra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3:</td>
<td>W Rogers</td>
<td>J Phillips and F Brady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4:</td>
<td>C Croll</td>
<td>Z Sweetman Steele</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6:</td>
<td>M Keating</td>
<td>N O’Neill and M O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
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**PREMIER’S PRIMARY SCHOOL LEADERS DAY**
Mrs Harding and four of our school leaders were invited to State Parliament House to attend the Premier’s Primary School Leaders Day. The students were given a guided tour of Parliament House. During the tour our State Government system was explained and the students had the opportunity to sit in both the chamber of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council chamber. The students were shown the office and meeting rooms of the Premier, where they enjoyed morning tea.

Premier, Mr Mike Baird, then set a challenge for all students. They were required to write and present a two minute speech about a person who they felt was a great leader. Our students spoke about Mother Teresa and her dedication to helping the poor.

**Parent Network News**

**WORKING BEE**
Hello Gents,
I am putting out a quick call to see if any dads are free this Saturday morning to help out at the school with a spot of manly gardening.

We are looking to do a few hours to rejuvenate the front garden beds, put in some new plants, rip out some old ones, and mulch it all together! We’ll be well guided by Libby our trusted landscaper.

We need to do this on Saturday to avoid losing any kids in the soil being delivered.

The more hands the quicker it will bee…. boom boom. If you can give up any time on Saturday please e-mail back ASAP, once we have at least 5 dads committed for a couple of hours from 8am, we’ll book in the supplies.

Please bring a shovel and bucket, and no doubt a photo opportunity for the 2015 Yearbook.

Regards
Ben

crunchcafe@gmail.com

Volunteers from this Friday are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>S Ayliffe, E Paterson (f)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Nov – 4 December</td>
<td>M Brown</td>
<td>J Castellan</td>
<td>S Varano, L McClennan (f)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Thanks
Ton Hipolito
YEARBOOK 2015
Calling all images for the 2015 Yearbook!

- Do you have any images from Term 4 (or any other terms) that you would like included in the 2015 yearbook?
- If so, please email them to: scb.pf.photos@gmail.com
- Photos needed: Taekwondo (including All Schools tournament)

Leanne Roberts, Melanie Nunn & Karen Galt (2015 Yearbook Committee)

YEARBOOK 2016
The Yearbook Committee is in need of some new members to publish and take photographs for next year’s 2016 Yearbook. The Yearbook is co-ordinated and published each year by parent volunteers from the St Cecilia's School Community and falls under the Parent Network Banner. It is a rewarding role resulting in a wonderful school keep sake. This role can be co-shared if preferred (ie. a team to take photographs and someone to publish) for example; this year the Yearbook had 1 publisher and 2 photographers.

The Yearbook is developed using a program called Fotofusion (which is very user friendly and can be operated on either Mac or Windows) and has full technical support from MSP - who are St Cecilia's current professional school photograph providers.

If being a part of the St Cecilia's Yearbook may be of interest you, please contact Leanne Roberts (roberts005@bigpond.com), Melanie Nunn or Karen Galt to find out more information.
Full training of software and hand over provided at the beginning of Term 1, 2016.

MILLIE SMITH SHOP OPENING TIMES
There will be two more open days of the Millie Smith Shop before the end of the school year. If you need to get organised for next year, now is a good time to see if there is anything suitable in the Millie Smith Shop for you. Also please let any Kinder 2016 parents know about these open days.

- Friday 27 Nov 2:30- 3:30pm
- Friday 11 Dec 2:30-3:30pm

We have second hand uniforms ranging from $5 to $10. Cash only - All proceeds go to charity.

Thanks,
Orla Keane

SCHOOL BANKING
I would like to thank the ladies who volunteered to join me every Tuesday morning this year processing the student bank deposits and rewards; Belinda Van Meurs, Tracey O’Sullivan, Kelly Chapman and recently Jane Berry.

The last school banking day for this year will be Tuesday, 8 December (week 10). The last week for ordering rewards is next week, Tuesday, 1 December.
The school banking team wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

Fiona McVicar -School Banking Coordinator

Community News

WARRINGAH COUNCIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS: Club 567 is aimed at young people in years 5, 6 and 7 and the focus on the programs is on providing opportunities for young people to participate and develop skills in new activities in a fun, safe and friendly environment. Warringah Council is also pleased to be able to offer a new pre-school vacation care program this January for those children who have finished at daycare and are about to commence primary school in 2016 – full details can be found in www.warringah.nsw.gov.au

A Message from our Gala Dinner Sponsors

VISION PERSONAL TRAINING BALGOWLAH (a Parent Gala Dinner Sponsor) special Christmas offer buy 5 sessions for $275 receive 5 free sessions. Please call Daniella on 0422235063 offer expires 25 December to purchase. - 460 Sydney Road Balgowlah.
Volunteers Thank You Afternoon Tea

Monday 7 December 2015 at 2.15pm

Please RSVP to Sue Walmsley by Friday 4 December

scb@dbb.org.au or phone 9948 3069
Year 6 welcomes you to 'Night of the Notables' 2015

St Cecilia's Catholic School, Balgowlah School Hall
3rd December

7:00pm.

Year 6 would like to introduce you to notable people who have made a difference and helped humanity.

RSVP: Numbers attending by 30th November
monica.officer@dbb.catholic.edu.au