Principal's News

Core Value:  Hope
School Rule:  Be positive and contribute
Scripture:  with God all things are possible  Matt: 19:26
Story:  Parable of Talents
Weekly Behaviour Expectation:  Cup half full attitude

Dear Parents,

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE.
Please visit our new website and don’t forget to save it in your favourites file.
http://www.scbdbb.catholic.edu.au/

Although we are still busily up-loading information to the site the exciting news is we are now able to manage the site ourselves and keep it current. New features include a monthly calendar with all the upcoming events and most importantly the ‘featured news’. This feature will easily allow us to upload new information including a change in school routines.

SURF DAY
As you are aware the Surf Day was postponed last Thursday due to safety concerns for our students resulting from the extreme weather forecast. The great news is that we have been able to reschedule for Wednesday 9 December. Unfortunately a second permission note does need to be signed for the correct date and returned to school.

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 December during the 9am Mass. The event will complete our transition program and we look forward to welcoming the children in the New Year.

SCHOOL REPORTS
End of year Academic Reports have been emailed home today. Parent/teacher interviews will again be offered to all parents but at this late stage of the year they are optional and only intended to discuss learning concerns resulting from the academic report. Interviews will be held next week commencing Monday 7th -11th December. The procedure for booking of appointments is included in this newsletter. The on-line booking system will close this Friday at 4pm. Please be assured a handover meeting for teachers to discuss student needs with their 2016 teacher will be held on Thursday 17 December once the children commence their annual holidays.

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.

‘NIGHT OF THE NOTABLES.’
All families are invited to attend our Year 6 presentation of ‘Night of the Notables.’ ‘Night of the Notables’ is a model program for talented children in which a student engages in an in-depth study of one famous or notable 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, performance and the higher level thinking skills.

Please support our Year 6 on their ‘Night of the Notables’ in our school hall on 3 December at 7:00pm.

STAFFING
Fi O’Shaughnessy has accepted a position as a Music Education Officer in the Wagga Diocese. This is a very exciting opportunity for Fi and we wish her every success and God’s Blessings in her new role.
It does mean for St Cecilia’s however we will advertise for a music teacher. We are currently also advertising for an Italian teacher, a PE teacher and interviewing for the Canteen/Volunteer Coordinator position.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY**
The Diocese of Broken Bay has launched its DBB WYD Krakow 2016 Raffle with amazing prizes to help support our World Youth Day pilgrims.

Raffle tickets are only $2 each and the prizes on offer are:
- **1st Prize** - 2016 Hyundai 5 door Accent Active 1.4 MPI, including on-roads, rrp $16694.70 - **Sponsored by Avium**
- **2nd Prize** - Cosmos 2016 European holiday for two people to the value of $6000.00 ($3000.00 per person) - **Sponsored by Cosmos**
- **3rd Prize** - 1x Apple Watch Sport 38mm space grey aluminium case with black sport band, rrp $499 - **Sponsored by Catholic Church Insurance**
- **4th Prize** - 1x Apple iPad Mini 2 Wi-Fi 16GB, rrp $369 - **Sponsored by Broken Bay Institute**

Any money raised from the sale of the raffle tickets will go toward supporting pilgrims who will travel to Krakow, Poland for WYD 2016 as a pilgrim. The raffle will be drawn on Palm Sunday, 20 March, 2016. The tickets are available from our school office. Our own Gabriel Williams will also attend World Youth Day.

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

Fran Taylor
Principal

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**Religious Education**

**Book of Remembrance**

Thank you to all the staff, students and their families, who recorded the names of their departed loved ones in our ‘Book of Remembrance’ in the office foyer. We have prayed for our family and friends throughout November and, especially, at our whole school Mass celebrating the Feast of St Cecilia.

We will continue to keep our family and friends in our prayers.

**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL TREATS’ DAY**

Thanks to students and families who contributed to our Christmas Special Treats’ day on Tuesday. Many of the cakes, biscuits and cupcakes were decorated in festive colours and were very tempting!

The treats sale has raised **$379** for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal.

We are grateful to the Kindergarten parents who provided the yummy treats, and in particular our reliable group of mums-Tracey, Belinda, Annette and Kellie who set up, decorated and helped sell the treats with our Year 6 leaders.

A big ‘thank you’ to all the parents, students and staff who have donated goods and gifts for our Christmas Hampers Appeal already!

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

All donated gifts and goods are due at school by **Wednesday 9 December**. If you would like to help prepare and wrap the Hampers, on **Friday 11 December**, please check the Hamper Letter for details.

Thank you for your generosity.

**STAGE 2: YEAR 3: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODULE: ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS**

**FOR ADVENT:** Students will discover that during Old Testament times, the prophets reminded the people of their covenant with God. The students will learn of the prophets’ promise of a special person whom God would send to help them with the difficulties of their lives. They will explore how the Gospel writers told the story of Jesus as this person, and that this belief has become central to our faith as Christians.
**FOR CHRISTMAS:** Students will be invited to consider the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas as a celebration of the fulfilment of God's covenant promise to send a saviour. In exploring the meaning of Christmas, students identify ways in which they can, like Jesus, be witnesses to the fulfilment of God's promises.

**WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS:** Year 2W attended the Parish Mass this week.

**‘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.

*Monica Officer, Religious Education Coordinator*

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### Education

**KIDSMATTER: Yoga for Kids**

It is normal for children to feel tired towards the end of the year. Tiredness and exhaustion can inhibit our ability to control our emotions.

Yoga is an excellent way to help children alleviate stress and anxiety through simple breathing and movement techniques. Here is a simple guide to yoga for children. [http://childhood101.com/2015/04/yoga-for-kids/](http://childhood101.com/2015/04/yoga-for-kids/)

*The KidsMatter Team*

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### School News

**UPCOMING DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th></th>
<th>January 2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd</td>
<td>Night of the Notables --Yr 6</td>
<td>Wed 16th</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Liturgy &amp; Last day for students 11.30 am</td>
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<td>Fri 4th</td>
<td>Yr 6 Fun Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7th</td>
<td>P/T Interviews commence</td>
<td>Wed 27th</td>
<td>Staff return for 2016. Assessments and Best Start commence</td>
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<td>Thank You Afternoon Tea for volunteers 2.15pm</td>
<td>Fri 29th</td>
<td>Yrs 1 – 6 commence</td>
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<td>Tues 8th</td>
<td>Last day for school banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 10th</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation Mass 2.00 pm</td>
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<td>Mon 14th</td>
<td>Advent Liturgy Yr 3, Final Assembly, Academic Awards 9.15 am</td>
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<td>Tues 15th</td>
<td>Buddy morning tea and moving day</td>
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**February**

| Jan 1st | Kinder commence | |
| Wed 3rd | Swim Carnival 9.30 – 11.30am | |
| Mon 8th | Meet the Teacher | |
| Wed 10th | Ash Wednesday | |

**TERM DATES 2016**

- Term 1: Wednesday, 27 January to Friday, 08 April
- Term 2: Tuesday, 26 April to Friday, 01 July
- Term 3: Monday, 18 July to Friday, 23 September
- Term 4: Monday, 10 October to Tuesday, 20 December

**WEEKLY AWARDS**

We congratulate this week’s Awards’ recipients.

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<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Star of the Week</th>
<th>Merits</th>
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<tr>
<td>KB:</td>
<td>A Meaney</td>
<td>L Ayliffe and W Paterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KW:</td>
<td>M Walsh</td>
<td>A Zipparo and J Bignold</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1:</td>
<td>I Medak</td>
<td>A Cook and C Van Meurs</td>
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<tr>
<td>2B:</td>
<td>C Forsythe</td>
<td>C Lee and S Wood</td>
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<td>2W:</td>
<td>A Keys</td>
<td>T Fraser and E Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3:</td>
<td>T O’Brien</td>
<td>A Medak and T Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4:</td>
<td>O Hamer</td>
<td>L Campbell and A O’Neill</td>
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<td>Yr 5/6:</td>
<td>C Agostino</td>
<td>L McFarland</td>
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**LIBRARY**

All books are to be returned to the library. There is no more borrowing this year.

*Terri Smith*
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>
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<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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ARTIST OF THE WEEK
This week our Artists of the Week come from Year 1. Drop in to the office foyer to view the works of art from O Nunn and G Sampson.

MUSIC PROGRAM - 2016 ENROLMENTS
A reminder that enrolments for next year’s music program are due back to Evergreen Music by Friday 4 December. Information and enrolment forms are available from the school office, or by contacting info@evergreenmusic.com.au

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.office@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Student Voice
GAMES TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST CECILIA AND WELL-BEING WEEK

On Friday 27 November, all the students and teachers at St Cecilia’s turned out to play games to celebrate the Feast of St Cecilia and Well-being Week.
The 11 games were organised by Georgina, Becky, Jodie and Lucy from Year 6. All 205 students were organised into their Peer Support teams and led so well by their Stage 3 Leaders. Our games were only five minutes long, but there was lots of laughter and fun had by all. Some of the games included skipping, musical statues, relays, scooter games and ten pin bowling.

A big thank you to the teachers and Year 6 Leaders who organised this great afternoon.

Chloe and Sabine

P&F EXECUTIVE TEAM, PARENT NETWORK AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Hello families,

As the 2015 school year comes to a close, the P&F Executive Team would like to thank all our the parents who gave their time, effort and positive support to the school, the kids and community.

Without your personal contribution many of the activities would not have been possible. It takes an army of parents to keep the canteen running, Millie Smith, the social meetings, the school functions, morning teas and parent’s days, Diocese, Year Book and Kids Matter. The Treasury, Secretary, Vice President, the Board.

Thank you to the Parents supporting the school financially through donations, contributions and fund raising.

As my first year as P&F President, I’m grateful for all the families support and look forward to delivering on our goals for 2016.

Core Value Tree Grove

On Saturday the dads’ army consisting of Shane, James, Jeff, Andrew, Anthony, Steven, Kurt and I turned up on Saturday morning and created the Core Value Tree Grove. The team did a fantastic job, moving 8 tonnes of soil and mulch, planting and cleaning all in a couple of hours. The Grove looks fantastic and will be there for the kids for many years to come. Many thanks to our Gala Dinner Core Value Sponsors, plaques recognising your efforts will be put up shortly alongside your tree.

I am hoping to take on the next challenge with another call to shovels, this time the lower playground ‘Glowing Garden’. Date to be announced soon!

Gala Dinner – Scouting Group – Looking for Volunteers!

This year’s Gala Dinner was a cracking success, and everyone had a great time. During our review, we heard concerns about price and the same venue, so we are asking the parents to jump on-board our ‘Gala Scouting Group’. They will venture out and look at venues and pricing for next year, and help us overcome the logistical challenges. Year 2 will then carry on with delivery. We’ll provide a Scouting Leader from the Executive Team / Social Committee to assist. Please e-mail scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com for a spot, and help us get the best possible outcome for 2016 Gala night!

Cocktail Party

It’s looking like a Hall Party for 2016!!! If you think your house is up for a party in February, please let us know.

Kind Regards

Ben Easter and the Executive Committee

• The Canteen will be closed next Wednesday, 9 December, due to the Surf Day at Freshwater.
• The Canteen will be closed on the last day of school, 16 December.

Volunteers from this Friday are:

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 December</td>
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<td>S. Varano; (F) - L. Mclennan</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – 11 December</td>
<td>L Mallon</td>
<td>Closed due to Surf Day at Freshwater</td>
<td>S Kilbey; G Hopkins - 9am-12nn</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>M Croll - 11am to 2pm   (F) J.Padman - 11:30 - 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>L Richard &amp; S Toia</td>
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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 - All Schools tournament - who attended?

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. It would be lovely to see the Yearbook continue at St Cecilia's, but can only be done so with volunteers.
- 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 is one more open day 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 this open day.

Friday 11 December 2:30-3:30pm
- We have second hand uniforms ranging from $5 to $10
- Cash only

Orla Keane

Parish News
Catholic Community of North Harbour - Pop-up Piety Shop will be at St Cecilia’s Sunday 13 December at the 9am Mass. Christmas gifts, Advent calendars, rosary beads, Christmas cards, holy cards and lots, lots more.
Dear Parents,

This semester the school will once again be using an online booking service for the end-of-year optional parent-teacher interviews. Parents and care-givers will need to visit the website below and follow the three-step process to book interviews. Please note the following dates and times for bookings.

- **Open**: 3pm - Wednesday, 2 December
- **Closed**: 5pm - Friday, 4 December

To begin the process go to **www.schoolinterview.com.au** and follow the instructions below.

Go to **www.schoolinterview.com.au** and enter our school code: **4v2u9**.

Then follow the 3 easy steps.

When you click finish, you can either print your interview timetable or email it to yourself. If you don’t receive an email straight away check your junk mail folder. If your circumstances change you can return to **www.schoolinterview.com.au** and alter your interviews until bookings are closed by the school.

**Please note:**
- End-of-year interviews are completely optional
- If you don’t have internet access or need any assistance with bookings, please phone the school on (02) 9948 3069.
- If there are no suitable times available on the schedule for a specific teacher, please contact them directly to try and arrange an alternate interview time.
- If you need to change your interview times after bookings have closed, please contact the school office immediately.
- **PLEASE NOTE: Bookings close at 5pm on Friday, 4 December.**

Kind Regards

Mrs Fran Taylor
Principal
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