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.

Principal's News

Core Value: Respect
School Rule: Respect yourself, others and the environment
Scripture: "Each one of you is part of the body of Christ and you were chosen to live together in peace": Colossians 3:15
Story: The Ten Commandments
Weekly Behaviour Expectation: Safe and Caring Hands

Dear Parents,

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Thank you to the many parents who took the time to join us at our swimming carnival last week. The day went smoothly due to the support and work of our many parent helpers. The students of St Cecilia’s are to be congratulated on their sportsmanship and enthusiasm. It was a happy day and many children could be heard supporting each other. Thank you to Ms Terri Smith for organising and leading the day in such an efficient way and to all of the teachers who worked tirelessly to ensure a good time was had by all.

PERMISSION NOTES

Please remember to check your child’s bag later this week for the usual beginning of year permission notes that need to be returned to school as soon as possible. These notes include computer agreement forms, permission to be photographed and permission to walk to the park for sport each week. These forms need to be completed annually.

CLASS PARENTS

Thank you to the parents who have offered to be Class Parents for 2016. In light of the new privacy laws to which schools must adhere, being a Class Parent is a big responsibility. To discuss privacy laws and the responsibility of the class parent you are asked to attend a Class Parent meeting on Tuesday 16 February at 2pm.

KISS AND RIDE

The Kiss and Ride zone in White Street has continued to be very successful. As our new families become familiar with Kiss and Ride it is timely to remind drivers of the reasons and procedures for using the Kiss and Ride zone (8.30-9.30am and 2.30-3.30pm)

For the safety of the students it is important drivers:

- ‘DO NOT GET OUT OF CARS in White St’ when dropping off and picking up students
- ‘DO NOT REVERSE PARK in White St’ and to move along with the flow of cars in a line to collect or drop off your child in the allocated area.
- Remember ‘NO PARKING’ restrictions do apply.

If parents wish to come into the school playground they are asked to park their cars in Wanganella and Seaview Street and to enter and exit the school yard via the gates in Wanganella and Seaview Streets.

- Students for “Kiss and Ride” sit on the driveway inside the gate in the afternoon.
- Cars to have “family name sign” visible on front window - the school has issued one sign per family (from office) - If more than one sign is required please notify the office.
- Students to attend After School Care wait on silver seats for the Camp Australia coordinator.
- Supervision of students ceases at 3.30pm. If students have not been collected they will be taken to After School Care where the afternoon fee will be required.
Thank you to parents for working with the school so that all students are kept safe and parents can pick up and drop off students efficiently. If you do prefer not use this service can I please ask you to be considerate of our neighbours and refrain from parking across their driveways even for short periods of time.

**ASSESSMENTS**

The Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI testing) that took place on the first two days of term is almost complete. Teachers will spend considerable time analysing the data they have collected and use it to program mathematics according to student needs. The MAI enables teachers to identify students who need extending in mathematics and those who may need further assistance. Understanding the diversity of ability in any given classroom, the misconceptions and the strategies students use to problem solve is complex, but teachers equipped with the correct information are able to provide learning opportunities that will enable students to thrive and extend their mathematical understanding further. A summary of the strategies your child uses to problem solve will be sent home in the coming weeks.

**STUDENT SAFETY**

Just a reminder that in the interest of student safety the play equipment is only open at recess and lunch when classes are rostered on and teachers are available for supervision.

Also students with a foot injury must wear an enclosed shoe to school. If the school shoe causes discomfort to the injured foot students should wear a sports shoe or an ugg boot to protect the foot. Thongs cannot be worn to school as they heighten the risk of further injury.

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

Fran Taylor
Principal

### Religious Education

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Today, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. This morning, students, staff, parents and parishioners celebrated this new season in a beautiful and prayerful Eucharistic celebration.

As we begin Lent, let us make a deal to accompany each other into the heart of God's love for us. God is love and is about love. God's love is always a gift and loving forgiveness is a sure sign of the presence of God. God always forgives us, but knowingly or unknowingly uses us to express that forgiveness to one another and, in so doing, we appropriate forgiveness for ourselves.

*May you live these Lenten Days*
*Not in purple Lenten denial*
*But in the joyfulness of the intimate embrace*
*Of your Blessed God*

*May you hear on the Lenten winds*
*Your Beloved calling you daily*
*To go apart from your daily routine time*
*To spend desert time with your God.*

*Then your heart can be freshly aflame*
*With a lover's delight in your God.*

*May you have a blessed and grace-filled Lenten season so as to be a new person*
*In Christ in alleluia joy on Holy Easter*

**STAGE 3: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODULE:** Sacraments of Service: Sacraments in the Service of Community

In this module, students are encouraged to reflect upon the nature of their own vocation and how it is to be lived out in their daily lives. Students will relate the service of married couples and priests to the family and the parish with the meaning and celebration of the sacraments of Marriage and Holy Orders.
**WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS:** On Wednesday 17 February, Year 4 will attend the Parish Mass. Everyone is welcome!

**‘FAMILIES COME GATHER’ MASSES:** Our first ‘Families Come Gather’ Mass is for the year is **Sunday 28 February** Year 3B and Year 3W will be involved in this Mass. Please join us for this wonderful liturgical celebration.

**PRAYER ASSEMBLY:** This term, our first Prayer Assembly will be held on **Monday 15 February** in the Hall. Year 3W will be leading the assembly and sharing some of their learning experiences in Religious Education. The assembly will begin at 2.30pm.

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**
Congratulations to all the students enrolled in our Parish Sacramental Program for Reconciliation. Family learning groups began this week in different homes in our Parish. Thanks to all those families who are leading or hosting this program. A reminder that the Reconciliation ‘Ritual of the Cross’ will be held at all Parish Masses.

**A WARM WELCOME**
I extend a very warm welcome to all who are new to our learning community.

We look forward to getting to know all our new families and staff, and invite and encourage you to join us at our assemblies, Masses and Liturgies.

**Monica Officer,** Religious Education Coordinator

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**KIDSMATTER: Free Evening for Parents & Carers: Michael Grose**
Australia’s Leading Parent Educator is coming to our Diocese

![Michael Grose](image)

**What really Matters as a Parent:** We all want to be the best parent we can be but it can be sometimes confusing with so much information. A trailblazer in parenting education, Michael Grose is the founder of Parentingideas, appears regularly on television and radio discussing relevant issues for today’s parents and has authored of eight parenting books including, Teach your Child to Shrug and Does Your Child Learn the Hard Way?

Michael will share his insights into building a strong family, raising resilient confident kids and getting your kids to do more by doing less yourself! In fact he’ll even have you working towards that forgotten goal - redundancy … as a parent that is. You will leave the night energised, inspired and on a natural high!

**The Broken Bay Diocesan Parent Council (DPC)** provides seminars and workshops each term for all parents & carers and are thrilled to be working with Michael in 2016 and having him present at Sacred Heart Primary, MONA VALE on **Wednesday 24 February, 2016 at 7pm** – put it in your diary. All parents from schools across our diocese are welcome so spread the word. To get an insight into Michael’s approach to parenting or to **register** you interest in attending go to the DPC website to RSVP **[www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com](http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com)**.

**The KidsMatter Team**

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**ANAPHYLAXIS WARNING - NUT & EGG ALLERGIES**
We have several children who have severe allergies to nuts, particularly peanuts and also to eggs. Please do not give your children peanut butter or nutella sandwiches or products containing nuts in their lunch boxes. Save these for treats at home. Students are encouraged not to share food to further minimise any risk.

**ARTIST OF THE WEEK**
This week our Artists of the Week come from Yr 1W. Drop into the office foyer to view the works of art from C Padman and L Wunder.
UPCOMING DATES

February
Mon 15\textsuperscript{th} Prayer Assembly 2.30pm – 3W
Tues 16\textsuperscript{th} School Banking commences
Class Parents meeting 2.30pm
Sun 28\textsuperscript{th} FCG Mass – Yr 3
Mon 29\textsuperscript{th} 2.45pm Prayer Assembly – 1W
P&F meeting

March
Tues 1\textsuperscript{st} Yr 3 Boys to St Paul’s
Thurs 3\textsuperscript{rd} Peninsula Swim Carnival
Sat 5\textsuperscript{th} P&F Cocktail Party
Mon 7\textsuperscript{th} Catholic Schools Week commences
Wed 9\textsuperscript{th} 9.15am Pop Up Play

Thurs 10\textsuperscript{th} School Photos
Yr 6 Peninsula Cluster Mass
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Mon 14\textsuperscript{th} 2.45pm Prayer Assembly Yr 2

Thurs 24\textsuperscript{th} Holy Week Liturgy & Cross Country
Fri 25\textsuperscript{th} Good Friday
Tues 29\textsuperscript{th} 2.45 Prayer Assembly - Resurrection

April
Tues 5\textsuperscript{th} Soccer Gala Day Yrs 3 & 4
Thurs 7\textsuperscript{th} Soccer Gala Day Yrs 5 & 6
Fri 8\textsuperscript{th} End Term 1
Tues 26\textsuperscript{th} Term 2 Commences
ANZAC Day liturgy

WEEKLY AWARDS
We congratulate this week’s Awards’ recipients.

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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Star of the Week</th>
<th>Merits</th>
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<td>KB:</td>
<td>E Chapman</td>
<td>N Mills and X Fender</td>
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<td>KW:</td>
<td>E Kelly</td>
<td>H Meaney and C Boys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1B:</td>
<td>S Maher</td>
<td>T Burton and A Meaney</td>
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<td>Yr 1W:</td>
<td>A Selleck</td>
<td>S Hardy and A Brown</td>
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<td>Yr 2:</td>
<td>B Sutcliffe</td>
<td>I Medak and O Nunn</td>
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<td>Yr 3B:</td>
<td>N Macleod</td>
<td>J Delany and C Forsythe</td>
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<td>Yr 3W:</td>
<td>E Hughes</td>
<td>C Conna and M Easter</td>
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<td>Yr 4:</td>
<td>E Winter</td>
<td>P Portelli and O McFarland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>N Faeste</td>
<td>C McKenzie and S Lanchester</td>
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CHESS!!
Learn how to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Cecilia’s Primary School (Balgowlah) is held on Tuesdays from 8:00am – 8:45am in the Year 5/6 room. Term 1 lessons commenced 9 February 2016.

Chess is the world’s most loved board game. Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment! Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games, with personal feedback from the coach.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, solving puzzles, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, please pick up an enrolment form from the school office, or you can email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

DRAMA
Drama commences next week from 8 – 8.45am on the following mornings: Yrs 5 & 6 on Monday, Years 3 & 4 Wednesday and Yrs 1 & 2 on Thursday. Enrolment forms for 2016 are attached to this newsletter. If you would like your child to participate in Drama this year please complete the enrolment form and return it to the school office

Parent Network News

Hello parents and friends and welcome to 2016.
What a year last year, the momentum is still going with Secret Garden, Value Tree Grove and goals well underway. Thank you to all the families who helped out in 2015, could not have done it without you.

The P&F is currently looking for volunteers across all functions of the school, from Class Parent Social Committee Representatives, Year Book, P&F Executive Committee… the list goes on.
Shortly we will send out a hyperlink to an online registration, so please jump in and put your name down. The more hands make for lighter work; any questions on the roles don’t hesitate to send us a note scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com.

Our fantastic Canteen and Volunteer Manager, Julie, will be working closely with us to assist volunteers across the board, and look forward to new and exciting year ahead.

**Cocktail Party**
The date everyone wants to know about is the 2016 Cocktail Party and this will be on **5 March at 7.00pm**. We are all looking forward to welcoming the new families and celebrating the families in their final year.

This year we will be holding the event at the school. It is difficult to find a home to cater for 200+ parents as the school grows, and we don’t want to impose too much wear and tear on the host family and their neighbours. The school grounds provide a safe and enjoyable environment, and with the Year 1 team on decorations they will no doubt create a different vibe to what we are used to.

As is tradition, Year 1 is responsible for organising and running the event guided by the Social Committee. Seeing as we are still building up the Social Committee members for 2016, we really need Year 1 to work with Jane Padman (Head of the Social Committee) to make the night brilliant.

The other tradition is that all other parents (new parents to St Cecilia’s exempt!) to bring a plate for the night. Over the next few weeks we will issue the allocation of savoury to sweet dishes for the classes.

Many thanks

*P&F Executive & Social Committee*

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**THE CRUNCH CAFE**

Changes to the menu will be happening over the next few weeks. Thank you to parents who have provided their feedback as well as volunteered their time.

We are in the process of setting up an electronic rostering format, however until this is ready please see the sign-up sheet outside the canteen.

If you have any queries, please contact me at julie.harrison1@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Thank you

*Julie*

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

School banking will kick off for 2016 on Tuesday 16 February. By now all Kinder students should have received an information pack; there are more information packs available at the school office for students in older years who are new to the school or to school banking. Please see the note from the Commonwealth Bank regarding this year’s competition draw at the end of this newsletter.

*The School Banking Team.*

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**ST CECILIA’S REQUIRE A YEARBOOK PUBLISHER FOR 2016.**

At this stage there is no one to take over the role of publishing the Yearbook which will sadly mean no Yearbook for 2016. Parents Karen Galt (Smith), Stephen Hanson and Brian Roberts are happy to take photographs throughout the year. It would also be nice to have a representative from Year 6 taking photographs as there are many important days to capture for the senior students.

The software used to publish the Yearbook (Fotofusion) is supplied / and downloaded from MSP - our school photographers who provide IT support throughout the year. Fotofusion is very user friendly and publishing can be done “at home” at any time. The photographers pass on all images taken via USB’s or through the Yearbook email address; scb.pf.photos@gmail.com. There is also a template book set up for the Yearbook.

Publishing for the 2016 Yearbook can commence Term 2 (using all term 1 photographs). At present, the only requirement for the publisher is planning with the school and photographers ie. identifying important dates in the school calendar where photos need to be taken.

If you think you might be interested in taking on this role please contact me to have a chat.

*Leanne Roberts,*

**Northern Sydney Health:** Parenting ideas for parents and carers are available including Triple P, Tuning in to Kids, Helping with Anxiety, Terrible Toddlers, Tuning in to Teens, Resilient Kids, Dealing with Backchat. For information go to [www.nshd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/CAP](http://www.nshd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/CAP).

**Marist College North Shore Expo Day** Saturday 5 March 2016, 10:00am - 2:00pm. Come and visit our staff and students and learn about Marist College North Shore’s integrated and comprehensive curriculum program that, for every student, promotes faith, encourages excellence, engenders responsibility and develops respect and dignity. Currently accepting enrolments for Year 7, 2018. For an application: [www.maristcollege.com](http://www.maristcollege.com) or contact the Registrar on 9957 5000, E: northshore@maristcollege.com. Applications close 24 March 2016. 270 Miller St, North Sydney NSW 2060

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**Stageworks**

**PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL**

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**St. Cecilia’s Drama Classes 2016**

Drama Classes are available in the School Hall for children in Years 1-6. The length of the different terms varies and all classes are of 45 minutes duration.

**2016 - Term 1 – 8 weeks (cost $125)** Invoices are either posted or handed out in class.

**Times are as follows:**

- **MONDAY** 8am – 8.45 am – Years 5 – 6
- **WEDNESDAY** 8am – 8.45am – Years 3 – 4
- **THURSDAY** 8am – 8.45 am – Years 1 – 2

**N.B.: These are the days and times the school hall is available for Drama, but this is subject to numbers and demand. Days and times may be changed if necessary and places are limited.**

The children are given several performance opportunities throughout the year, e.g. the option, in Semester 1, to enter in the Northern Beaches Eisteddfod in individual items. There are also regular performances in the school hall on Drama Performance nights and Open Days when parents may view a class in progress.

Please complete the section below and return to the School Office to confirm your place in the age appropriate drama class. All children new to drama classes will need to complete a yellow **Stageworks Enrolment Form** at the first drama class. Please make sure to notify me of any change of address, as the school office does not automatically do this.

Trish Collier, Drama Teacher.

My child/children……………………………………………………………………. Year/s……

Would like to take part in Drama Classes for 2016 in the School Hall on a Mon/Wed/Thurs

Signed…………………………………………….(Parent/Guardian)

Contact Phone No……………………………..Email……………………………………
School Banking 2016 is set for the outback.

Since 1931, the School Banking program has been introducing interactive and exciting new ways to teach students lifelong money skills. This year's program invites your child to join the Dollarmites on a wild outback adventure through the Canyon of Savings.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the gear you need to get started. If you haven't received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

**Equipping smart savers with eight new reward items in 2016**
The School Banking program continues to encourage good savings behaviour by rewarding students with thrilling reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, students can redeem a reward from our Outback Savers range. The first two reward items released in Term 1 include Flying Snake Tails and Wildlife Writer Sets.

**You could meet Bindi and Robert Irwin at Australia Zoo**
This year, we’re giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three kids to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin, plus:
- A full day Platinum Zoo Adventure Tour, where you’ll get to pat wombats, cuddle koalas and feed wallabies, all while your personal photographer captures every incredible moment.
- Domestic return economy airfares to Sunshine Coast, Qld, 4 nights’ accommodation, 5 days’ car hire and $1,000 spending money.

Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will automatically receive an entry into the competition.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

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**Outback Savers**

**Canyon of Savings**

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Promotion starts 9:00am AEST 25/4/16 and ends 11:59pm AEST 30/6/16. Entry is open to all Youshoer account holders aged 5-19 years who participate in CommBank's School Banking program, have a parent/guardian consent to enter, and hold at least $5 separate deposits into their 'Youshoer' account through the promotion period. Limit of 1 entry per person. The draw will take place at 12:00pm AEST on 14/7/16 at the Promoter's offices. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip for up to 2 adults and 2 children (under 12 years of age) to the Sunshine Coast, Queensland with return economy flights (depending on winner’s place of residence), 4 nights’ accommodation, 5 days’ car hire, $1,000 spending money and a 1-day VIP Family Platinum Adventure tour of Australia Zoo, valued at $13,600. The winner's name will be published in the public notice section of The Australian on 17/7/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 49 123 123 124, 3/1 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Call 13 2221. NSW Permit No LTPS/15/03746; ACT Permit No TP15/7385; SA Permit No 11/04/196.