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 I peace”:  Colossians 3:15
Story:  The Ten Commandments
Weekly Behaviour Expectation:  Learn and let others learn

Dear Parents,

Last Wednesday and Thursday four of our staff, Monica Officer, Gabrielle Williams, Terri Smith and myself attended Cultures of Thinking, Community of Practice, a professional learning opportunity funded by the Diocese. The Cultures of Thinking Project is a global initiative under the direction of Dr Ron Ritchhart, a Principal Investigator and Senior Research Associate at Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education. The Cultures of Thinking initiative considers education to be a social and cultural endeavour that’s goal is the development of both the individual and the group as effective learners and thinkers able to engage with, and adapt to, a changing world. The focus is on building cultures in schools in which thinking is made visible and is actively promoted.

As a school, we look forward to building further momentum and understanding of the Cultures of Thinking ideas as we embark on a year-long inquiry project with Dr Ritchhart that will see all of our teachers cultivating a community of thinkers amongst our students.

Last week Colette Ward attended EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) training and Nicholas Dowler, already an EMU specialist, will complete further study in the primary component of the mathematics program. That brings the number of EMU specialists on staff to five. Angela Pelling was trained in Observational Survey, a program designed to target the literacy needs of children. Our Kindy teachers, Zoe Hulme and Lucy Schneider attended a data analysis day where they unpacked the Best Start data gathered on our Kindergarten students at the beginning of the year. They are now ready to implement strategies in the classroom to meet the needs of the individual children. Damien O’Brien has continued to attend numeracy network meetings, Stephanie Harding has attended literacy professional learning and Jenny Morris has attended Mission Formation workshops. All teachers have also had professional learning in the areas of Science and Social and Emotional Well Being of students. It has been a busy but rewarding beginning to the year.

THE SECRET GARDEN
Fr Paul is available to officially bless the Secret Garden that was funded by the Parent Network, on Friday 11 March at 9:15am. Everyone is welcome to attend our official opening celebration of the garden.

OPEN DAY
Next week is Catholic Schools Week. On Wednesday 9 March we will have Open Classrooms from 9:15 to 10:30am. All parents are welcome to attend. Catholic Schools Week also launches the beginning of the enrolment period for 2017. If you have a child eligible to start school in 2017 please come along to our Open Day on Wednesday. School tours will be available from 9am to 10:30am with a Principal’s address at 9:30am.

VOLUNTEERS AT ST CECILIA’S
It has been my experience over the past year that parents are very generous when it comes to supporting their children and the school. Unfortunately due to the busy nature of life, volunteering is becoming more difficult. Communication has become an increasing frustration as in the past parents relied on class list and possibly had access to other parents emails. Due to privacy laws, the school cannot issue class lists to parents or to the Parent Network Group. The simple solution, as discussed at the Parent Network meeting is for class parents to send school communication to Sue Walmsley who will send it out via email to the targeted class. Some grades have already found this to be extremely successful.
Please commit to reading the newsletter and any emails sent out via the St Cecilia’s School email account as they all contain very important information.

Also a reminder that the Class Parent is a Parent Network role and provides communication between parents regarding the social and volunteering needs of the school. Any questions regarding class routines or anything to do with the children’s learning needs are to go directly to the class teacher.

**LOCKDOWNS**

It is always normal routine to practise lockdowns and evacuations in case of emergency. This term we have practised both. In case of a real emergency an email will be sent to all parents via the Catholic Schools Office to keep parents fully informed of the situation. The local police visited the school yesterday and were happy with our lockdown and evacuation procedures as well as the level of security we observe.

**WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY**

The Parent Network committee would like to welcome all new families to the school. Everyone is invited to attend our Welcome Cocktail Party that will be held this Saturday in the school grounds from 7 – 11pm. If you haven’t already RSVP’d please do so to: rsvp.stceciliasbalgowlah@gmail.com

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In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus

In all things may God be Glorified.

Fran Taylor

Principal
Religious Education

WEDNESDAY PARISH PRAYER: on Wednesday 9 March Year 2 will attend the Parish Mass. Please join us - Everyone is welcome!

PRAYER ASSEMBLY: Our next Prayer Assembly will be held on Monday 14 March at 2.30pm. Year 2 will be leading this assembly. Everyone is welcome to join us.

FAMILY COME GATHER MASS: Our next ‘Families Come Gather’ Mass for the year is Sunday 22 May Year 2 and will be involved in this Mass. Please join us for this wonderful liturgical celebration.

Education

KIDS MATTER: Friendships
Children’s friendship needs and skills change and develop throughout their childhood. When children lack cooperative relationship skills it can lead to friendship groups being dominated by some children and excluding others. Parents can model how to be an “includer” through actively showing compassion and empathy within the family unit and towards the wider community where people feel loved and included just as they are.

Here are two excellent resources to give you hands-on tips:
1. “Helping Children Learn Positive Friendship Skills”, Kidsmatter

   Thursday 17 March in the St Cecilia’s School Library. Two sessions are being offered:
   - 9.15am - babies and pre-schoolers are welcome.
   - 7pm Repeat session

School News

UPCOMING DATES

March
Thurs 3rd Peninsula Swim Carnival
Sat 5th P&F Welcome Cocktail Party
Mon 7th Catholic Schools Week commences
   P&F Exec & Class Parent meeting 7pm
Wed 9th Open Morning 9 – 11am
   9.15am Pop Up Play
Thurs 10th School Photos
   Yr 6 Peninsula Cluster Mass
   Sacrament of Reconciliation
Mon 14th 2.30pm Prayer Assembly Yr 2
Thurs 17th 9.15am Parent Ed – Social & Emotional Skills, St Patrick’s Day & Good Samaritan Day

Fri 18th 2.30 – 3.30pm Millie Smith Pop-up Shop
Thurs 24th Holy Week Liturgy & Cross Country
Fri 25th Good Friday
Tue 29th 2.30pm Prayer Assembly - Resurrection

April
Tue 5th Soccer Gala Day Yrs 3 & 4
Thu 7th Soccer Gala Day Yrs 5 & 6
Fri 8th End Term 1
Tue 26th Term 2 Commences
   ANZAC Day liturgy

June
Tue 14th Staff Development Day

MSP SCHOOL PHOTOS
Individual envelopes for school photos were sent home today. Please note the following
- School Photo day is Thursday 10 March
- Any queries please contact MSP Photography 9499 6555 directly
- Payment is cash only – no change is given. Cheques are not accepted. Parents may order and pay online through the MSP website www.msp.com.au. Instructions are on your envelope. Online orders close at noon the day prior to photo day. Late orders are subject to a $20 penalty fee
- Every student must present their own envelope
- Envelopes to be returned to the class teacher on or before 10 March
- Family envelopes have also been sent home today via the eldest child

PENINSULA SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Tomorrow some of our students will represent the school at the Peninsula Learning Community of Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival to be held at the Warringah Aquatic Centre from 8:30-1pm. Our best wishes go to those students who are competing.

ICAS COMPETITIONS - (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools)
Information regarding these competitions has been emailed to all parents today along with this newsletter. These competitions are available for students in Years 2 – 6 only. If you wish for your child/ren to sit these competitions please
return completed Registration Form/s to the school office by Wednesday 23 March along with the correct money in a sealed envelope.

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Star of the Week</th>
<th>Merits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB:</td>
<td>L Hardy</td>
<td>J Pryor and L Bartlam</td>
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<tr>
<td>KW:</td>
<td>R Mitchell</td>
<td>W Castellan and G Saul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1B:</td>
<td>A Hill</td>
<td>L Galt and E Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1W:</td>
<td>D Ponfoort</td>
<td>C McClenann and H Hopkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2:</td>
<td>S Hogan</td>
<td>A Kelly and S Paddison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3B:</td>
<td>E Auchterlonie</td>
<td>H Burton and M O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3W:</td>
<td>A Rigney</td>
<td>A Galt and N Selleck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4:</td>
<td>B Wylie</td>
<td>E Rochios and S Nunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>E O’Sullivan</td>
<td>H Wyeth and R Forsyte</td>
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**ARTIST OF THE WEEK**
This week our Artists of the Week come from Kinder White. Drop into the office foyer to view the works of art from C Wood and C Boys.

**DRAMA**
Enteries into the Northern Beaches Eisteddfod are now closed. However, late entries will be taken, online only, until 8 March on payment of $40 penalty fee. There is no provision for late postal entries.

Any queries please contact me.
*Trish Collier, Drama Teacher – Stageworks*

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**Parent Network News**

Hello Parents,

**P&F General Meeting**

If you weren’t at the Oscars on Monday, then you were probably at our Monday Night P&F General Meeting. A brilliant attendance from parents across all years, and excellent discussion on key items.

The main focus was to understand how we can better engage parents in school, community and social events. The feedback was excellent from all parents, and improving communications to engage parents was a common theme.

Parents have access to many forms of school communications now with a choice of e-mail, newsletter, Internet, meetings and paper documents sent home. It can be difficult to monitor and respond to all the requests so we are looking at how we make it simpler.

Please make sure your contact details at the school are up to date. The P&F needs to maintain an independent directory, so Class Parents will be chasing parents for details, please check your inbox and return the Class List Authorisation form as soon as possible to get on your class list. E-mail scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com if you need the form again.

We also focused on recruiting P&F Executive Roles, Social Committee roles and Class Parents. Although the night was long, it was very successful and numerous roles were filled. A big thanks you to all the parents who put their hands up.

We are still in need of three class parents for Year 3:

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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class Parent 1</th>
<th>Class Parent 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3B (Mr O’Brien)</td>
<td>Katherine Cook</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3W (Miss Williams)</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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If you are a parent in this year and willing to assist please contact scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com
Currently there are a number of positions vacant in the P&F, a memo detailing these positions with an overview of the P&F function will be coming out at the end of the week in your child’s school bag, please look out for it.

VOLUNTEERING
From Monday night’s discussion it was clear that the families of St Cecilia’s are willing to provide their time and expertise. All our initiatives are allocated to a year group, and as part of our communications review we will post the schedule on the school website under ‘Community’ and send home on paper.

Please check the website as volunteers are needed for:
- Canteen – All Years: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-stcecilias
- Cocktail Party – Year 1 http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-cocktail
- Open Day – Urgent - Kindy and Year 5/6 (it would be great to have your knowledge of the school as well) http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-stcecilias1

Please keep an eye on the School website, it is continually updated with school news, online volunteering, the calendar. . . . it’s worthy of a bookmark.

WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY – 5 MARCH
For all the parents of St Cecilia’s, staff and Father Paul, we look forward to a fantastic cocktail party. Preparation is well underway and the evening will be fantastic. Look forward to seeing all the new faces.

Year 1 are all prepped and ready to your host for the night. Any questions please e-mail scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS AND GALA NIGHT DISCUSSION – MONDAY 7 MARCH
- 7pm at the St Cecilia’s school library.
We are seeking your input into how we can best communicate with families and the various forms of media available. Gala night planning – What, Where, When and How Much… making sure the night is everything it needs to be.

To close off this note I would like to thank everyone who is supporting the P&F as we adjust to a changing environment. Please feel free to contact us at any time to share ideas and suggestions.

Regards
P&F Executive Team

Ben Easter scb.pf.noticeboard@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FOR CLASS PARENTS
If you volunteered to be a Class Parent and didn’t receive the following email please take note:

Dear St Cecilia’s Parents
You have received this email as you gave your details to the committee at either the P&F Meeting on Monday 29th Feb and/or when you agreed to be a Class Parent for 2016. Following our P&F meeting earlier this week we felt the need to facilitate a discussion / forum on a couple of specific topics which will help improve activities at the school. Therefore I am requesting your attendance to join the Executive Committee for a meeting on Monday evening at 7pm at the St Cecilia’s school library.

It is an informal meeting where we would like to openly discuss a couple of activities and processes which are currently being reviewed at St Cecilia’s.

The first topic is Communications.
We would like to explore the following areas about channels, content and frequency;
1. Communications from the P&F to the parents,
2. Communications from the School to the parents,
3. And Communications from the parents to both the school and the P&F.

The second topic is The St Cecilia’s Gala Evening for 2016.
We will be looking at all aspects around our major fundraising activity for the year such as;
1. The event location options,
2. The event format,
3. Ticket price,
4. The school community involvement and event workload and contribution requirements.

We value your contribution and we hope you can all make it on the evening.

Best regards

John Smyth
MILLE SMITH UNIFORM SHOP
Thanks all who came to support the Millie Smith pop up shop on Friday. We had a very busy day and thanks to help from Sue Walmsley, Sonia Walsh and Melanie Nunn, we raised over $350 for charity on our first open day. All proceeds from the shop go to charity.

Thanks to everyone who has already donated their pre loved uniform items. Just a reminder to anyone else who is doing a clear out, please drop off your uniform items to Sue in the office. Gala shirts are in hot demand as the current Year 3s will need them, however all current uniform items in good condition are welcome.

As the last Friday of the month is Good Friday, the next open day will be 18 March 2:30pm to 3:30pm. Cash only please.

Thanks,

Órla Keane

THE CRUNCH CAFE
Thank you so much to all the wonderful parents that have signed up as volunteers for the canteen. Below is a quick snapshot of the roster for the next 4 weeks. Somehow, the manual roster outside the canteen has been taken, however I am sure you are all now well aware that you can find the electronic sign-up sheet on the school website.

Julie

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY 29/2</th>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 4</td>
<td>YEAR 4</td>
<td>YEAR 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOT FILLED</td>
<td>Grace Mitchell</td>
<td>Ana Medak</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Orla Keane (1st shift)</td>
<td>Gillian Hopkins</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evelyn Paterson (2nd shift)</td>
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<th>WEDNESDAY 9/3</th>
<th>FRIDAY 11/3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>YEAR 5/6</td>
<td>YEAR 5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tracey O’Sullivan (1st shift)</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
<td>Andrea Hogan (1st shift)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VACANT – 1 position</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Brodie (2nd shift)</td>
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<th>FRIDAY 18/3</th>
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<tr>
<td>KINDY</td>
<td>KINDY</td>
<td>KINDY</td>
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<tr>
<td>VACANT</td>
<td>Sonia Walsh (1st shift)</td>
<td>Gillian Hopkins</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grace Mitchell (1st shift)</td>
<td>Jodi Sampson (1st shift)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zoe Brown (2nd shift)</td>
<td>Joanna Sutcliffe (2nd shift)</td>
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<td>Terese Flynn (2nd shift)</td>
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<th>MONDAY 21/3</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 23/3</th>
<th>FRIDAY 25/3</th>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robyn Wunder</td>
<td>Susie Warren</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn Paterson</td>
<td>Sonia Walsh (1st shift)</td>
<td>CANTEEN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orla Keane (2nd shift)</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
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GOOD FRIDAY CANTEEN CLOSED
Hi everyone,

My name’s Ben and I help co-ordinate Evergreen Music who are running the extra curricular music program at St Cecilia’s. We currently run group keyboard and guitar sessions on a Friday morning. In addition to those sessions we’ll be starting a ‘WIND BAND’ program.

The St Cecilia’s WIND Band will take place on a morning before school (day TBC) and all kids in YEAR 3 and above will be eligible to join. To begin with we’ll be encouraging WIND and BRASS instruments. Primary school is the best time for children to be exposed to these fantastic instruments and have the opportunity to play them.

The WIND and BRASS instruments for the school band include:

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone
I've made a little clip to showcase each instrument from some of my favourite wind and brass clips on Youtube. So call your kids over to the computer or iPad and click this link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PM_l-hyXqM&feature=youtu.be Perhaps they will be particularly taken by one of the instruments.

Wind instruments certainly take practice to get a good sound out of so to start early is great. To play in the school band your child must also be having private lessons. Private instrumental lessons at St Cecilia's are not on offer at the moment. Evergreen Music has some fantastic teachers, and all of these instruments are tutored privately from our studios in Brookvale every week, or you could find a teacher yourself in your local area.

Right now we are asking for EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST. So please email back with answers to the following questions if you and your child are interested.

Child Name:
Parent/s Name:
School Grade:
Instrument:

Thanks everyone.
Hope to be making music with the kids very soon!

Ben info@evergreenmusic.com.au

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Community News

- **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 or contact the Registrar on 9957 5000, E: northshore@maristcollege.com. Applications close 24 March 2016. 270 Miller St, North Sydney NSW 2060.

- **Mater Maria Catholic College Warriewood Open Day** – Sunday 13 March 2016 11.00am - 2.00pm. A warm welcome is extended to all prospective families to join us for Open Day. We are now enrolling students currently in Year 5. Please visit the College website www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au or contact our Enrolment Registrar for a prospectus, Application for Enrolment or to register for a College tour. Applications for Year 7, 2018 close on April 6, 2016.

- **St Paul’s Catholic College Manly Open Evening** - Thursday 3 March 4:00pm-7:00pm. Come and tour our new hall with its state of the art facilities, watch classroom demonstration lessons, listen to our College bands and enjoy a BBQ on our magnificent grounds overlooking beautiful Sydney Harbour. Applications for enrolment for Year 7 2018 will close on Thursday 31 March 2016. A systemic education in the Diocese of Broken Bay. For further information phone 9977 5111 or go to www.stpaulsmanly.nsw.edu.au

- **St Lucy’s School Open Day** – 9.15am Wednesday 9 March. Excellence in education for children with intellectual disabilities. 21 Cleveland St Wahroonga. RSVP Terry 8355 3157 or enrol@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

- **St Lucy’s School Start Right Program Open Day** Wednesday 16 March – St Lucy’s satellite class, St Joseph’s School 108 Ocean St Narrabeen. RSVP Terry 8355 3157 or enrol@stlucys.nsw.edu.au

- **Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College Open Day** Sunday 13 March 9.30am – 1.30pm. Bring the family. 11am Information Session hosted by Principal Mrs Nicole Christensen. 128 Miller St North Sydney 9409 6200 www.monte.nsw.edu.au
School Photo Day is Thursday 10 March 2016

Have your child’s school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day

- Family envelopes are available at the school office

- If paying by cash please enclose correct money as no change is given on photo day. NO CHEQUES ACCEPTED

- Credit card payments can be made online (please follow instructions on envelope) or by calling our Office prior to the day. Your child will still need to take their envelope with them on the day.

- Sport/Specialty Photo Orders will be organized after photo day on a separate form.