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.

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: Share talents and ideas.

Principal’s News

Dear Parents,

Schoolwide Activities
Invitation to An Advent Journey
Mrs Fran Taylor invites you to a parent reflection morning as we enter the season of Advent.
An opportunity to pause to consider the footprints of grace in our lives and the steps we can take during Advent to draw us closer to the heart of God.
Gentle meditation, interactive discussion, engaging clips, and some beautiful supper to refresh and revive your spirit.

DETAILS
When: Thursday 1st Dec 2016
Time: 9am—11am
Where: St Cecilia’s School, Balgowlah (Library)
RSVP: monica.officer@dbb.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL REPORTS
End of year Academic Reports will be emailed home this Friday 2 December. Parent/teacher interviews will again be offered to all parents and will be held next week, 5 - 9 December. End of year interviews are optional. Interviews are only necessary if you have a concern about your child’s report. Please do not book a time simply to thank teachers. A note addressing your gratitude would be very much appreciated instead. The procedure for booking of appointments will be emailed with the reports.

ACCADEMIC AWARDS
Teachers have also finalised academic awards for the year. These awards will be handed out at the Core Valued Award Assembly on Monday 12 December. This year two awards will be handed out per class based on end of year assessment in combination with consistency of academic performance throughout the year. If your child is to receive the award you will be contacted shortly by Stephanie Harding should you wish to be present at the assembly.
NEW ADDITIONS
Congratulations to the Morris (KW) and Wylie (Yr 4 & Yr 1) families on the birth of their beautiful new siblings this week.

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

Fran Taylor
Principal

Religious Education

Heaven on Earth-Invitation to ‘An Advent Journey’
Mrs Fran Taylor invites you to a parent reflection morning on Thursday 1 December as we enter the season of Advent. This is a wonderful opportunity to pause to consider the footsteps of grace in our lives and the steps we can take during Advent to draw us closer to the heart of God. See attached flyer for further details.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS
Thank you for the goods and gifts you have already donated to our ‘Christmas Hamper Appeal’. The hampers will be distributed via our local chapter of St Vincent de Paul Society.

All donated gifts and goods are due on Monday 5 December. Students are asked to take the food items to their classroom and the wrapped and labelled gifts can be delivered to me via Mrs Walmsley at the Office. If you would like to be a part of the ‘wrapping team’ that wraps and decorates the hampers on Thursday 8 December, please contact Jo Johnston at jos.johnston@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity.

GOOD SAMARITAN DAY
On Tuesday 6 December, we host our Term 4 ‘Good Sam Day’. Our focus this term is to create the word ‘H-O-P-E’ out of gold and silver coins. The SRC Leaders suggested this idea because it connects well with the school Core Value of ‘Hope’ and because the birth of Jesus brings great hope to our lives.

Everyone is encouraged to bring what coins they can to help build our coin word. A letter of the word ‘H-O-P-E’ will be allocated to each of the Colour Houses and together they will make their letter out of coins.

The money raised will go towards our ‘Christmas Hamper Appeal’. Please refer to the flyer at the end of this Newsletter.

EARLY STAGE 1: KINDERGARTEN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODULE: ‘Advent to Christmas
For Advent: The focus in this module is the annunciation. The announcement to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus shows that God is active in the lives of ordinary people, and thus is active in our own lives. The liturgical season of Advent will be explored as a time of waiting and preparation for the celebration of the coming of the Messiah. The people of the Old Testament waited, Joseph and Mary waited and so we too wait in anticipation.

For Christmas: Christmas will be seen as a time that opens up possibilities for us to change as people. The infancy narratives will be explored in the context of what they say to us as disciples of Jesus. Christmas celebrates God’s transformative power in the person of Jesus. The acts of giving, receiving and celebrating open us up to transformation. When celebration is genuine and focused upon relationships, we are nourished, replenished and refreshed. When our gift giving reaches out to those on the margins of society, with the attitude of sharing with our brothers and sisters, then we are opened up to real transformation as we might contribute to transforming the lives of others.

WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS: This week, Stage 3 attended the Wednesday Parish Mass. Thank you to those family members who joined the class. On Wednesday 7 December, KB will attend the Parish Mass. Please join us. Everyone is welcome!

PARISH MASS TO WELCOME OUR 2017 KINDY STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. On Sunday 4 December, the Parish will welcome our 2017 Kindy students and their families. As members of the Catholic Community of North Harbour, it will be a terrific opportunity for us to celebrate with the families and to make ourselves known to them.

This Parish Mass starts at 9am.
UPCOMING DATES

November
Wed 30th Stageworks Drama Performance

December
Thurs 1st Final Debating
9am An Advent Journey – (Heaven on Earth)
Fri 2nd Reports home
Sun 4th Kinder 2017 Blessing Mass 9am
Tues 6th Good Sam Day
Thurs 8th Hamper wrapping
Carols Evening 5.30 – 7.30pm
Mon 12th Final Assembly and Core Value Awards
Wed 14th Last Day for Canteen
1.40pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass

January 2017
Mon 30th MAI Yrs 1-6 and Kinder Best Start appointments
Tues 31st Yrs 1 – 6 commence & Best Start Kinder appointments
Kinder picnic

February
Wed 1st Kinder commence

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Weekly Value Award: Hope</th>
<th>Merits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB:</td>
<td>Lucia B</td>
<td>Xavier M and Thomas K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KW:</td>
<td>Alyssa W</td>
<td>Xander C and Georgia S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1B:</td>
<td>Luca M</td>
<td>Oscar W and Sophie M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1W:</td>
<td>Oscar P</td>
<td>William W and Sibella H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2:</td>
<td>Jesse P</td>
<td>Piper L and Luca C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3B:</td>
<td>Sienna A</td>
<td>Ethan A and Kirsten B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 3W:</td>
<td>Monet D</td>
<td>Michael D and Charles L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 4:</td>
<td>Henry P</td>
<td>Sam A and Cooper M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Capri R</td>
<td>James T and Joshua P</td>
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ARTIST OF THE WEEK
This week our Artists of the Week come from Kinder Blue. Drop into the office foyer to view the works of art from Pedro S and Rae-Marie B.

Wellbeing

As parents we often neglect our own wellbeing to ensure the wellbeing of our children comes first. At a recent conference I attended we were all encouraged to take 10 minutes a day to concentrate on our own mindfulness in order to alleviate the stress in our lives.

Our spirituality session ‘An Advent Journey’ is designed to cater for parents and their wellbeing. I encourage you to take up the invitation for an hour or two to put yourself first for a change and join us in the Library at 9am for light meditation and discussion.

STUDENT VOICE
On Tuesday 29 November we hosted the annual ‘Year 6 Fun Day’. The day consisted of many games and activities that really encouraged student participation. The aim of the day is to raise money for the Year 6 gift that we will donate to the St Cecilia’s community at the end of the year, something for the school to remember us by.

The activities included lolly guessing competitions, food stalls, soccer skills, raffle prize competitions, drawing stations and our favourite guess the teacher competition which involved all teachers sending in a photo of themselves as a toddler and the students had to try and put a name to the face! All in all we raised lots of money and look forward to leaving a gift for the school.

Year 6

Parent Network News

Over the past few weeks we have been preparing ourselves as a new team mainly focusing on handovers and recruiting for vacant positions.

I am very pleased to announce that we have now filled all the exec committee roles, as well as members of the social committee and all class parents.

Susie Warren (Yr 1, K 2017) has agreed to take on the role of VP Celebration heading up the social committee, very ably assisted by her team of Sophie Fay (Kindy), Bryanne Crabb (Kindy) and Bernie Casey (Kindy). The new social
committee put on their first event this week ensuring that we had a beautiful morning tea for our new kindergarten parents at their orientation.

We also now have a full team of class parents see below.

Class Parents - 2 for each year
- Kindergarten: Emma Burton, Dani Hanson
- Year 1: Kellie Chapman, Zoe Brown, Jodi Castellan, Emma Trueman
- Year 2: Corrine Vallelonga, Sandi Ayliffe
- Year 3: Christine Boys, Katharine Cook
- Year 4: Terese Flynn, Mark Flynn
- Years 5-6: Angela Winter, Christine Forsythe

Finally, thank you to everyone who turned out for the Christmas party on Friday night. It was an evening of beautiful food, drinks, some wonderful moves on the dance floor and an opportunity for everyone to catch up at the start of the festive season.

Also congratulations to our lucky raffle winners:
- 1st Prize Arbonne Skin Care - Megan Campbell
- 2nd Prize Smith Made Planter - Veronika Alkon
- 3rd Prize Magnums of Wine - Rita Armstrong

Thank you to the outgoing social committee especially the irreplaceable Jane Padman for another cracker event!

What's next?
We are busily planning for some of next year's events. Plans are starting for the welcome cocktail party - hold the date for the 18 February. If we do have a generous family who would be able to offer us the use of their home at which to hold the cocktail party please contact me soniawalsh@bigpond.com.

The current Year 1 parents have also started brainstorming and forming teams for the organisation of our gala event next year.

How can I help?
The Yearbook Team would really appreciate another volunteer so please reach out to Melanie Nunn (mlslagel@hotmail.com) for more information about this creative and rewarding role.

As always your support in filling vacant canteen slots is greatly appreciated.

Sonia Walsh

URGENT – 2 x VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR FRIDAY AFTERNOON SHIFT

If you are available for any of these shifts (regardless of Year allocation), please sign up on the electronic sign-up sheet. This can be found through the school website under the School Community/Volunteering tab or click here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY 5 DEC - YEAR 2</th>
<th>WED 7 DEC - YEAR 2</th>
<th>FRIDAY 2 DEC - YEAR 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sara Toia</td>
<td>Zoe Brown</td>
<td>Jane Berry (1st shift)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VACANT (2nd shift) x 1</td>
<td>Nadine Meehan</td>
<td>Johanne Little (1st shift)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Bernie Casey (2nd shift – Manager)</td>
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<th>FRIDAY 9 DEC - YEAR 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>VACANT (1st shift) x 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skye Wacher (2nd shift)</td>
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<td>VACANT (3rd shift) x 1</td>
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<tr>
<th>MONDAY 12 DEC - YEAR 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terese Flynn (1st shift)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deb Ristuccia (2nd shift)</td>
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<td>VACANT (2nd shift) x 1</td>
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<tr>
<th>WED 14 DEC - YEAR 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAST DAY OF CANTEEN FOR 2016</td>
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<td>VACANT (1st shift) x 1</td>
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<td>VACANT (2nd shift) x 1</td>
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<td>VACANT (3rd shift) x 2</td>
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Any feedback is welcome.

I can be contacted directly at julie.harrison1@dwb.catholic.edu.au. Please note I can only access this email on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Julie
Bring your silver and gold coins on
Tuesday 6th December

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