



St Cecilia's Catholic School Balgowlah

Celebrating
Respect
Justice
Service
Hope

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Number 39 4 December, 2019

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: Share talents and ideas.

Principal's News



ST CECILIA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Our Advent Journey

Amidst the busyness of this time of year, the weeks of Advent keep calling us to focus on what's truly important - the birth of our Saviour, the God who loves us, and our hope-filled expectation that Christ will come again. Amid the pressures and joys of Christmas preparations, let us keep taking small practical steps to observe and enjoy this holy season in our family homes

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY



Dear Parents

SCHOOL REPORTS

End of Year Academic Reports will be posted on Compass on Wednesday 11 December. Parent/teacher interviews will again be offered to all parents from 12 to 18 December. End of year interviews are optional. 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 appointments will be emailed out with the student class requisite list for 2020. Please note this year you again have the option of ordering your child's requisites on line from Humphries or sourcing them yourself elsewhere.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Teachers are also finalising academic awards for the year. These awards will be handed out at the Core Value Award Assembly on Monday 16 December. 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 the class teacher.

CHOIR

On Wednesday 11 December the choir will be performing Christmas carols at Balgowlah RSL. We will arrive at 5:30pm to perform between 6pm and 8pm. The choir will be moving through the bistro and main bar area singing Christmas carols

YEAR 6 FUN DAY

Year 6 will hold their annual 'Fun Day' tomorrow. They host games and activities for the school community. The aim of the day is to raise money for their Year 6 gift to the school. Be sure to send your child with lots of coins so that they can join in the fun.

FINAL ASSEMBLY AND ACADEMIC AWARDS 16 DECEMBER

Our very special awards ceremony will commence at 2:15pm in the church on Monday 16 December. At this final assembly for the year we will announce the recipients of the Core Value 'Hope' Award, the Academic Awards and the Patrick Anthony Award. All parents are invited to join us to celebrate the achievements of our students at this ceremony.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION 13 DECEMBER

On Friday 13 December Year 6 will celebrate their Graduation with a very special Mass commencing at 1.45pm in the church. As our Year 6 graduating students celebrate the end of their primary schooling they celebrate a journey that began seven years ago with their first day in kindy. A journey that has provided them with countless experiences and opportunities to learn, grow and mature. They are well prepared and ready to journey on to their selected high schools assured that they have the skills and independence needed to be successful. We wish them God's blessings as they leave us and invite the entire school community to come along and celebrate this important milestone with us. This year we also begin a new tradition whereby on that day Year 5 will provide Year 6 and staff with a special morning tea to celebrate their year together.

OUR THANKSGIVING LITURGY 18 DECEMBER

Finally we will end the year with a Thanksgiving Liturgy on Wednesday 18 December at 10:30am. At this celebration we give thanks for the past year and farewell departing students, families, staff and outgoing Parent Network members. We will also announce the 2020 School Captains, Liturgy/Social Justice Captains, Library/Creative Arts Captains, Sport and Wellbeing Captains, and Environment Captains. At the conclusion of Mass at approximately 12 midday parents may collect their children to picnic with other families and friends or to get away early if leaving Sydney for the holidays. Please note there will be supervision at school until 3.15pm.

ST CECILIA'S FIRST ANNUAL SPELLING BEE 2019

By now you will have heard the children speak of the 'Spelling Bee' who visits assembly each week. (Aka Mrs Grose). Mrs Grose is organising a spelling that involves the whole school.

What is a Spelling Bee?

A Spelling Bee is an oral spelling competition which is open to all students in the school in Years 3 – 6. A modified Spelling Bee for the Years K – 2 focuses on both written and oral spelling.

Purpose:

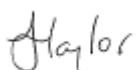
- To encourage students to focus on the importance and relevance of strong spelling skills when writing.
- To assist in developing vocabulary, learn new concepts and build confidence in reading and writing.
- To develop correct pronunciation of words and confidence when speaking especially when using less familiar words.

The Spelling Bee will take place across the school in week 9. Kindy to Yr 2 will compete next Monday and Years 3 – 6 will hold finals next Wednesday.

THE LION KING JR DVD

DVD's for the musical are available for order on QKR for \$15.50 Please collect your order from the school office.

Regards



Fran Taylor
Principal

*Celebrating **Respect**, **Justice**, **Service** and **Hope**.*

Religious Education



WEEK 1: ADVENT

When Advent first emerged, it was rooted in the need for **hope**. Advent was started by Christians who believed that Jesus was alive and that God was at work in the world. By focusing on hope it allowed people to be positive and focus more on God's goodness. The goodness moved people away from the darkness towards the light.

How would you define hope?
Why do you think hope is important?
How can you give hope to others?

CORE VALUE AND PRAYER ASSEMBLY

On **Monday 16 December** our Core Value and Prayer Assembly will be led by 1B. It commences at **2.15pm** in the church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS

Today Year 4 attended the Parish Mass. Next week (Wednesday 11 December) 1W will attend the Parish Mass. All are welcome to join us for Mass.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

At our school we are blessed to have such a generous community. Our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal is our time to give joy to others who are less fortunate than us. More information about what items your child's class will need to bring will be shared with you shortly.

If you are able to offer some assistance please click on the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-vinnies>

The hamper items will need to be delivered to your child's class by **Thursday 5 December**. Our hamper appeal will coincide with our *Good Sam Day: Giving and Gratitude*.

GOOD SAM DAY

On **Thursday 5 December** we will be having our final Good Sam Day for 2019. Our Year 6 students will be having their Fun Day on this day as well. To help commemorate our Good Sam Day we would like the students to make sure they have brought in something for the Christmas Hamper Appeal. Students can bring in a gold coin donation. The funds raised on the day will be used to assist the Year 6 students to purchase their gift for the school.

The students can bring in a toy that is special to them on the day. It would be preferable if they don't bring in anything that is expensive or anything that is fragile. An example of a toy the students could bring in is a plush toy.

WALKING THE WAY



Walking the Way is a school-based initiative in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay, designed to encourage parents in their sacred task of accompanying their children on their journey with God. There are four elements: Book & video / E-Bulletin / Parent gatherings / Annual retreat. Click here to view <http://walkingtheway.dbbcs.org/archive-2019-year-c.html>

God bless,

Tanya Fitzpatrick, Religious Education Coordinator

School News

WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



Week 7	Term 4 Hope Core Value	Merits
KB	Harriet B	Zahkir H and Xavier L
KW	Aiden C	Mimi W and Hannah D
1B:	Holly A	Tomas L and Eliza P
1W:	Zander E	Darcy G and John P
2B:	Sophie H	Alexander M and Joshua M
2W:	Thomas E	Hudson B and Tommy S
3B:	Cherry-Rose S	Eva C and Ruby M
3W:	Bonnie B	James S and Amy T
Yr 4	Marnie W and Tommy B	William S, Charlotte F, Ava H and Brigid T
Yr 5/6	Isabella C and Scarlet F	Amelie D, Madeleine E and Elise R

UPCOMING DATES

December

Thurs 5th Good Sam Day – Yr 6 Fun Day
6pm Drama Concert
Fri 6th Vinnies Christmas Hamper packing
Mon 9th Spelling Bee for K – 2

Wed 11th Spelling Bee for Yrs 3 – 6
Reports available on Compass
Fri 13th 1.45 pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass
Mon 16th 2.15pm Final Assembly & Academic Awards

Wed 18th 10.30am Thanksgiving Mass
Last day for students
January 2020
Tues 28 Teachers return

Wed 29 MAI Yrs 1 – 6 and Best Start Kinder
Thurs 30 Yrs 1 – 6 Commence, Best Start Kinder,
Kinder picnic 2pm
Fri 31 Kinder 2020 commence

LIBRARY NEWS

Please remember to return all library books.

Thank you

Stephanie Harding

DRAMA: End of Year Performance

Our end of year performance titled '*The Amazingly Splendid Dream*' is tomorrow night (Thursday) at 7pm in the school hall. Performers, please be at the hall no later than 6.30pm – earlier if possible, to help put the chairs out for the audience.

Please enter the school grounds via the Wanganella St entrance between the church and the school. Thank you.

Break a leg everyone.

Trish Collier, Stageworks Drama Teacher

YEARBOOKS

Have you purchased your 2018 Yearbook? These are available for \$30 each at the school office. Please pay via QKR.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the lost property tub before the end of term. It currently holds many items including a watch. All unclaimed items will be given to St Vincent de Paul at the end of the year.

Parent Network News



PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE: Click [here](#) for the 2019 booklet.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone!

I hope that you are having a great week. Can you believe we only have 2 weeks left of school?! I can't!

This week, I wanted to thank you all for your support and guidance as I took on the P&F Presidency role this year. It has been a really wonderful experience, great friendships made and a lot learned. As the year comes to a close, I am reflective on the growth of our community this year and its tight-knit nature. Thank you to all of you for volunteering, thank you for sharing your ideas. I am so blessed to have been given this opportunity and so appreciative of all of you. And to Sheridan, Jo, Derv, Rose, Will, Steph, Rachel, Kirsty, Robyn, Sandi, and Rosey - you are the most amazing team - thank you for everything you've shared - your time, energy and expertise!

With that, I'm so pleased to support Sam Ayliffe as the 2020 President of St Cecilia's P&F. Sam, with support of his lovely wife, Sandi, will be exceptional leaders of the community. To them, and the new P&F Exec Committee, welcome, and you have our complete support!

Thanks everyone and good luck these next few weeks!

x

Jamie

MILLIE SMITH UNIFORM SHOP

If you need to access before end of term please visit the office. If you have any suggestions for how we could improve the shop please let Jen Stegmann know (jennyfromthehutt@hotmail.co.uk).

SOCIAL JUSTICE

LAST CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS - Vinnies Christmas Hamper Appeal

This Friday 6 December is the day we collate and wrap Christmas hampers for our local Vinnies chapter. Thank you to all those who have already volunteered. ***We just need one or two more people to carry heavy baskets from the class rooms and staff room to the hall between 10.30 and 11am. Sign up here:***

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-vinnies>



The **roster** can be found through the school website under the School Community/Volunteering tab or click [here](#)

2019 Canteen Menu: click [here](#)

Upcoming Volunteers:

Fri 6 Dec: Lisa Thorpe-Apps and Emma Trueman and Chris Bignold

Mon 9 Dec: **2 Volunteers required**

Wed 11 Dec: **2 Volunteers required**

Fri 13 Dec: **2 Volunteers required**

Volunteering Times

- 2 volunteers required if working all day from 9am – 1.30pm
- If volunteers can only do part of the day then either two from 9 – 11.30am or 11.30 – 1.30pm
- Or if you can't commit but have some free time, even if just for an hour, contact the canteen and let them know.



Parish News

ST CECILIA'S CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS: REGISTRATION FOR CHOIR AND NATIVITY PLAY

Children's Nativity - Angels and Shepherds

We are calling on all angels and shepherds from Kindy and upwards to be a part of the Nativity play at the 5:30pm Christmas Eve Vigil mass at St Cecilia's Church. If your child would like to take part can you please [Register Here](#). Registration will be open until Monday 16 December. If you have any questions please call Derv Peach (0401 436134) or Evelyn Paterson (0417 849987)

Children's Nativity rehearsal will take place at St Cecilia's Church at the following times:

- Tuesday 17 December at 3:30pm (approx 45 minutes) - Nativity Play only
- Sunday 22 December at 10am (following 9am mass) (approx 1 hour) - Choir and Nativity Play
- Tuesday 24 December (Christmas Eve morning) 10am - If required (To Be Confirmed at Sunday 22nd rehearsal) - Choir and Nativity Play

Children's Nativity - Choir

We would also like to invite the school choir and any other children (year 3 and above) who would like to sing with them at the vigil mass, to be a part of the Children's Choir.

Please [Register Here](#) for the children's choir at the vigil mass. **Please register for the choir by this Friday 6 December.** If you have any questions please contact Tim Boys (0412 349635)

Children's choir rehearsals will take place at St Cecilia's Church at the following times:

- Sunday 8 December 10am (following 9am mass) - Choir only
- Sunday 22 December 10am (following 9am mass) - Choir and Nativity Play
- Tuesday 24 December (Christmas Eve morning) 10am - If required (To Be Confirmed at Sunday 22nd)

Community News

NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL VACATION CARE

Brochures for the upcoming holidays are available at the school office or go to the council [website](#).

EVERGREEN MUSIC

If your kids love music, there's no better option than our Evergreen themed workshops these school holidays!

They are a great space for kids to make new friends, be exposed to music they haven't heard before and use their voice/instrument to do what it's best for ... making music with others!

Our programs are designed to be fun but have also tricked many unsuspecting children into learning something new

AND practicing their instrument during the school holidays. For many, it's a musical awakening, where the purpose of learning music suddenly clicks. Another step in the journey of being a 'musician for life'.

WANT TO KNOW MORE OR BOOK IN?

Click on the following links or the images above for more details and how to book in! [SURF ROCK MUSIC CAMP](#)

And if you know anyone who may be interested in coming along to joining our community, feel free to let them know the details.

Deb and Ben

BUNNINGS BALGOWLAH FAMILY CHRISTMAS NIGHT

Thursday 5 December from 6-8pm. Magician, mem's choir, animal farm, light refreshments, jumping castle craft and a visit from Santa.



Join us at the 2019 Christmas Carols, and sing along with a Cunninghams candle!

<i>Manly</i>	<i>Dee Why</i>
Thurs 5 Dec 5-8:30pm	Fri 13 Dec 4-8:00pm

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Dr. Anel Bignaut from Marilyn Orthodontics is happy to support St Cecilia's Primary Catholic School community for the fifth year running. Anel treats both children and adults and has a strong focus on clinical excellence and patient experience. She offers a wide range of orthodontic treatment including metal braces, clear braces, hidden braces, invisalign and early treatment with plates for younger children. What sets her apart from other orthodontists is her boutique style practice where every patient is treated by a Specialist Orthodontist from start to finish in a friendly and laid-back atmosphere.

Anel is very approachable and is always happy to answer any questions or concerns regarding orthodontic treatment or early orthodontic intervention. If your child is not ready to start orthodontic treatment, they will receive periodic reviews at no additional charges to monitor their dental development until they are ready to start treatment. This will allow your child to get to know Dr. Anel and the practice and ensure that treatment is carried out at the correct time.

Terms and Conditions: 1) This offer is for parents and children currently enrolled at St Cecilia's. 2) The offer is valid for the 2019/2020 financial year.



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