



# St Cecilia's Catholic School, Balgowlah

59 Seaview Street, Balgowlah 2093  
Phone: 9948 3069

Website: [www.scbdbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.scbdbb.catholic.edu.au)  
Fax: 9948 5370

E-mail: [scb@dbb.org.au](mailto:scb@dbb.org.au)  
Number 7 14 March 2018

## 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:** *Respect*

**School Rule:** *Respect yourself, others and the environment*

**Scripture:** *"Each one of you is a 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:** *Care for Property*

## Principal's News

Dear Parents

### PUPIL FREE DAY

Tuesday 3 April **will be a Pupil Free Day**. On this day all teachers will receive professional learning in Literacy concentrating on the writing process.

This Pupil Free Day comes at the end of the Easter break giving families an extra day to get back into Sydney and avoid the Easter traffic. The children will return to school after the Easter break on Wednesday 4 April.

### YEAR 6 LEADERS DAY WITH THE BISHOP

Last Thursday a small group of Year 6 students joined with Year 6 representatives from other catholic schools in our Diocese to attend a morning with Bishop Comensoli. We were very proud of our children and their contribution to the day. Francesca B delivered a two minute speech on *What it means to lead as a missionary disciple of Jesus*. She gave the same speech at our open day presentation this morning, speaking with confidence and conviction. Be sure to read the children's reflection on the day in the **Student Voice** section of today's newsletter.



### SPECIAL MEETING FOR FAMILIES WITH BOYS FROM K TO 4 - 27 MARCH AT 7:00PM

St Cecilia's is a K to 6 school for boys and girls. This month begins the enrolment period for many of the independent schools for 2020 and beyond. I have been asked to host an evening for parents to discuss the merits of boys staying on at St Cecilia's. Our preference of course is for both boys and girls to complete their primary education at St Cecilia's before going onto Year 7 as we value the diversity that a mixed gender grouping brings as far as perspective and inclusivity. This is particularly important during the pre-teenage formative years when social and emotional intelligence is still developing. Following a conversation with Jonathan Byrne, Principal of St Augustine's College Brookvale, an agreement has been reached that guarantees any boy staying on at St Cecilia's will be accepted for enrolment into Year 7 at St Augustine's. This guarantee has only been extended to St Cecilia's and St Kieran's Schools. Please attend our meeting on 27 March to hear more.

### OUR GARDENS

You can't help but notice our wonderful gardens as you enter the school. The Trube family has spent considerable time installing an automatic watering system as well as our new scarecrow 'Daisy'. Jo has also spent time at school with the children planting new seedlings. The children's excitement was palpable. We are all so very appreciative. It looks amazing. The Parent Body funds are used to support the Gardening Club.

## EASTER LITURGY, CROSS COUNTRY AND PICNIC THURSDAY 29 MARCH

This year Easter occurs during the school term and does not form part of the term school holidays. As is our custom we will hold an Easter celebration on Holy Thursday, 29 March followed by our cross country carnival and Easter picnic. We will begin the day in the church at 9:30am where all classes will be involved in a moving liturgy that will follow the footsteps of Christ during Holy Week up until the crucifixion. We will then celebrate the Resurrection on our return to school on Wednesday 4 April at 2:30pm. All parents are invited to attend both liturgies. They are very moving and the children put a lot of preparation into the events.

Following our Holy Thursday Liturgy on 29 March will be our St Cecilia's School Cross Country event at North Harbour Reserve. All students from K to 6 participate on the day.

After eating their fruit break students will walk down to North Harbour Reserve for the afternoon's events.

Parents are also welcome to join the students and teachers at North Harbour Reserve for lunch and to watch the children compete in the Cross Country. The younger children will take part in Easter games while students 8 years and over are asked to nominate if they wish to be considered for selection to compete for St Cecilia's at the Northern Beaches Cross Country Trials. 8, 9 and 10 year olds must run/jog 2km to qualify and 11 and 12 year olds must run/jog 3km to qualify. The first six boys and six girls to complete the circuit in each age group will be selected to represent the school. Entry forms have been emailed home. If you haven't already returned your child's entry/permission note please do so. **Every child needs to return a form.**

The proposed timetable for the day is:

- 11:00am Depart for Reserve - students walk to North Harbour Reserve with their teachers
- 11:30am All students walk the cross country course-around the reserve!
- 11:45am Cross Country Races commence and Infants begin Easter Games
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 1:45pm Depart reserve, children may be collected from the reserve by their parents to begin their term 1 holiday break or they will return to school with their teachers for their usual going home procedure.

**Please Note:** For children returning to school with their teacher we have booked **one** bus. As you can appreciate there are limited spaces on the bus and once they are filled the remaining children will walk back to school.

## PARKING


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 prefer not to use our **Kiss and Ride** service can I please ask you to be considerate of our neighbours and refrain from parking across their driveways particularly when dropping off to before and after school care in Seaview Street, even for short periods of time.

**Park and Walk!**

**Let's make school drop off a positive experience for everyone!**

**Is this you?**

- ◆ Do you ever find yourself in a long queue for 'Kiss and Drop' that snakes across driveways, creeps forward, forces you to double park or creates a dangerous area for children trying to cross the road?
- ◆ Are you frustrated with trying to find a park that's close to the pick-up zone?



**Here's some tips, and some challenges**

- to make dropping off and picking up your children from school a more positive experience for everyone.
- ◆ **Park a short distance away** and walk your child to and from school.
- Your challenge** – do you need to park as close as possible to school?
- ◆ **Park at a nearby playground** or park and meet other parents and children for a brief play before walking together to school.
- Your challenge** – is there a park not far from school where you can meet?
- ◆ **Consider alternative options** to driving, such as car-pooling, walking, cycling or taking a bus.
- Your challenge** – do you need to drive every day?

**What's positive about these options?**

- ◆ It's good exercise.
- ◆ Models a positive and healthy life-style to your children.
- ◆ Removes additional traffic around the school.
- ◆ Reduces inconvenience for residents.

In Omnibus Glorificetur Deus

In all things may God be Glorified.

*F Taylor*

**Fran Taylor**  
**Principal**

### Walking Justly

**What fuels our sense of service & justice? And how do we encourage this in our children?**

We are looking forward to our first **Heaven on Earth Parent Reflection Morning** this Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> in the school library. The morning will be facilitated by Teresa Pirola and Monica Officer from CSO. Everyone is welcome.



### SOCIAL JUSTICE: PROJECT COMPASSION

Throughout Lent, students are encouraged to donate to **Project Compassion**. Our Social Justice leaders will complete a weekly tally to track the school's fundraising progress. Money raised will contribute to the many wonderful programs supported by Caritas <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>

### KINDERGARTEN: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MODULE:

#### **'Belonging to God's Family'**



This module focuses on how we experience love as members of God's family. We belong to God's family just because we are part of God's creation. As baptised people, we are also members of the church family. We are loved and supported by our church family, but are also called to reach out to other people in love, especially those in need. Like our own families and our school family, our church family is a community where God's love is expressed. Children will be invited to explore being part of family as a way to come to know God's love.

### ST PATRICK'S DAY GIFT FUNDRAISER-FRIDAY 16TH MARCH

Friday 16 March—Wear a touch of green and bring a gold coin donation towards the GIFT program.



### HOLY WEEK AND RESURRECTION LITURGY

On Friday 7 April, the whole school gathers at 9:15am in the church, for **St Cecilia's 'Holy Week Liturgy'**. Each class presents a tableau representing one part of the Passion of Jesus. This liturgy is the most significant in our school's liturgical calendar and all parents and family are invited to attend.

On our return to school after Easter, Wednesday 4 April 2:30pm, Stage 3 will present a **Resurrection Liturgy**.

### WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS

Year **2B** will participate in Parish Mass on Wednesday **21 March**. All parents are welcome to join us.

### 'FAMILIES COME GATHER' MASSES

Our next **Families Come Gather** Mass will be on **Sunday 25 March**. **Year 4** students and their families will be involved in this Mass. Year 4 parents, please check your email for the 'SignUp Genius' link to volunteer for Mass roles.

### PRAYER ASSEMBLY

Our next prayer assembly will be presented by 1W on **Monday 19 March**. The assembly will begin at **2:30pm** in the church.

### CELEBRATING LENT

Parents may find the following resources helpful.

#### Families and Lent - Acts of Love and Sacrifice

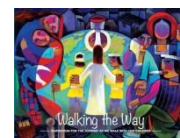
40 suggestions for putting Lent into practice at home and deepen your family's faith one day at a time.

#### Stations of the Cross for Families

An opportunity for families to reflect on how each of The Stations can be applied to our daily lives and for family conversation around important life and relationship issues.

### 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 Lent 5 Year B <http://walkingtheway.dbbcsso.org/archive-2018-year-b.html>



## School News

### LIBRARY NEWS

The Premier's Reading Challenge is now open for 2018. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.





Student passwords remain the same as those used last year. Students new to the school including all kindergarten students have now been registered. Classroom teachers have a list of **all** logins for their students.

See the website for all the rules and lists of challenge books: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

This is a wonderful opportunity to foster a love of reading in your children and a fun way to keep a record of all the books they have read.

Happy Reading

*Stephanie Harding, Assistant Principal*

## UPCOMING DATES

### March

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> 9am Heaven on Earth in the Library  
 Fri 16<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day GIFT Fundraiser  
 Mon 19<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Prayer Assembly 1W  
 Sun 25<sup>th</sup> FCG Mass Yr 4  
 Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 7pm Boys Meeting for Parents  
 Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Cross Country and Holy Week Liturgy  
 Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Good Friday

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Resurrection Liturgy & Prayer  
 Assembly – Stage 3  
 Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Staff Development Day – Pupil free  
 Mon 9<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Core Value Assembly  
 Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Yrs 3 & 4 Soccer Gala Day  
 Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day  
 Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Last Day Term 1  
 Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Term 2 commences

### April

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Easter Monday  
 Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Staff Development Day – Pupil Free

## WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



Week 6	Respect Core Value	Merits
KB:	Jacob P	Cassius B and Emma P
KW:	Elijah A	Maxence P and Madeline M
Yr 1B:	Hudson B	Alexander M and Francesca H
Yr 1W:	Maxwell A	Samuel M and Joshua B
Yr 2B:	Eva C	William O and Bella T
Yr 2W:	Caiden M	Amy T and Toby S
Yr 3:	Harper F and Tommy B	Hugo W, Yasmina H, Oscar W, Marnie W
Yr 4:	Will P	Xavier B and Amalia C
Yr 5/6	Milla C and Leila S	Amelie D, Amelie M, Molly O

## VACATION CARE

The Autumn 2018 School Holiday Activities brochure from Northern Beaches Council is now available from the reception area near the school office.

## Student Voice

### LEADERSHIP DAY

On Thursday 8 March four of our leaders went to Waitara for a very special mass. Our Social Justice/Liturgy Captains and School Captains were extremely privileged to participate in this gathering. Bishop Peter answered some of our questions about being a Bishop and leading the diocese. We then received a special blessing from him. We learnt about leading as a missionary disciple of Jesus through meeting new people, listening to speeches and talking to the bishop. Francesca had the special honour of being one of three leaders to present a speech which all of Year 6 helped write. Mass was great and we heard some amazing singing. An important outcome of the day was that, after discussing how we reach out to others in our communities, all schools decided on an action to take forward. Ours was to have an 'Acts of Service' day every week where we do a small act of service to put a smile on someone's face. Overall it was an unforgettable experience for all of us.

*Emilie, Leila, Charlotte and Francesca*



## Parent Network News

### Wear a Touch of Green THIS Friday 16 March

**Children can wear a touch of green on Friday (prior to St Patrick's Day) and bring a GOLD COIN.** Funds raised will go to GIFT to help purchase ingredients for regular cook-offs by St Cecilia's parents.

### Heaven on Earth

You are invited to come along to rest and reflect on **Thursday 15 March at 9am** in the school library. The topic is "Walking Justly – What fuels our sense of service and justice?, And how do we encourage this in our children?" Please join us!

## Volunteering

Please make sure to sign up to volunteer this term! There are so many ways that you can help! Remember, it may just be 1-2 hours, but means we are all contributing to our vibrant community here at St Cecilia's.

## GIFT: Giving in Faith Together

A big thank you to the Year 1 parents who participated in the GIFT cook off on Monday 5 March. Here are the dates for the remainder of the term:

Kindy: Monday 26 June 6pm - 9pm (Christine Boys)

Year 2: Monday 28 May 6pm - 9pm (Gillian Hopkins, Jo Johnstone)

**Year 3: Monday 19 March 9am - 12noon (Evelyn Paterson)**

Year 4: Monday 14 May 6pm - 9am (Annette Paddison)

Year 5/6: Monday 30 April 9am - 12noon (Jodi Castellan, Mel Nunn, Majella Brady)

**Please volunteer for this important social justice initiative, no cooking expertise required! Go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-gift>**

## Facebook—We need YOU!

If you have an expertise in Facebook, we need your help! If you understand the ins-and-outs of managing a Facebook page, please contact Nadine Meehan at [nadine@junogroup.com.au](mailto:nadine@junogroup.com.au). This is not a long-term position – more for counsel! Thank you!

## Sponsorship Opportunities 2018

Do you, or someone you know, have a business that our school parents need to know about? Sponsorship or prize donations are a great way to get your company name out there with the parent community. As one of our Community Partners you can promote your business or services regularly to parents through our newsletter and also our Facebook group SCB Hub. Plus, you could see your name up in lights at our annual Gala Dinner later this year. And needless to say you'll be helping our school and our kids in the process!

Similarly, if you are already one of our Community Partners – and we have some great ones from skincare to takeaway food, car servicing and office supplies – please keep in contact with our school parents via SCB Hub.

## Sponsorship 2017

You can bid but you can't hide! If you were one of the winners in last year's amazing Gala Dinner auctions and other prizes, we want to know about it! If you indulged in a weekend away in the Hunter Valley, an overseas holiday, dinner out or a personal chef at home, we'd love to hear about your experience.

For any of the above Sponsorship items, please contact Nadine Meehan, VP Sponsorships, 0412 139 476 or [nadine@junogroup.com.au](mailto:nadine@junogroup.com.au).



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

## Upcoming Roster

Fri 16 March: Trina O'Kelly and Harmony Osborne

Mon 19 March: Katrina Davolio and Terese Flynn

Wed 21 March: Michelle Stephenson and Kirsty Smidt

Fri 23 March: Cheryl Strong and Janelle Manchee

## Parish News

### 2018/2019 CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

A copy of the **2018/2019 Children's Sacramental Program** for children in Year 2 and older can be downloaded from the parish website at

<http://www.northharbourcatholic.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program/for-parents> and from the back of both Churches

The program starts with a **Sacramental Program Information Meeting for Parents** on Tuesday 8 May or Wednesday 9 May.

*Janette Davidson, Family and Sacramental Minister, Catholic Community of North Harbour*

### PARENTS NEEDED FOR ST CECILIA'S CHILDRENS' LITURGY

If you are interested in assisting in Children's liturgy at St Cecilia's parish Sunday Mass please contact me.

You can be partnered with a friend or an experienced parent and all the material is provided. It is a very rewarding job and the children love it.

Adriana Bowyer, 0402 099 746 [albowyer@bigpond.com](mailto:albowyer@bigpond.com)

## Community News

### **STELLA MARIS COLLEGE MANLY OPEN EVENING**

Wednesday 14 March 4pm – 7.30pm. 52 Eurobin Ave Manly [www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au) . Click [here](#) for more information.



### *Invitation*

## **Walking Justly**

**What fuels our sense of service & justice?  
And how do we encourage this in our children?**

Mrs Fran Taylor & Mrs Nikki Delrennie invite you to a parent reflection morning.  
An opportunity to stop and reflect on what it means to accompany our children in their journey of life, love and faith.

Join us as we recharge our parental energies with quiet reflection, interactive discussion, engaging resources, coffee and conversation. Treat yourself! And take home some practical parenting tips to continue the journey.

#### **DETAILS**

**When:** Thursday 15 March 2018

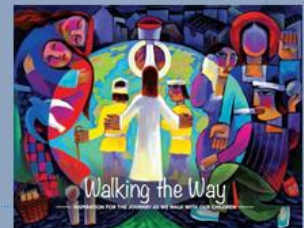
**Time:** 9am—11am

**Where:** St Cecilia's School, Balgowlah (library)

**RSVP:** [nikki.delrennie@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:nikki.delrennie@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

*Life is a journey. It is not an event that happens all at once. Life unfolds, step by step, day by day...*

*God walks with us, as we walk with our children.*



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Terms and Conditions: 1. This offer is for parents and children currently enrolled at St Cecilia's. 2. The offer is valid for the 2016/2017 financial year.

## LIGHTUP BALGOWLAH

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**OPEN 7 DAYS**

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