



St Cecilia's Catholic School, Balgowlah

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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 your appearance*

Principal's News

Dear Parents

PALM SUNDAY 26 MARCH

On Palm Sunday we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, as crowds of people welcomed him with palms and shouting 'Hosanna!', acknowledging God's saving power. Yet the moment of euphoria did not last. Jesus had travelled to Jerusalem before, but this would be his last time. He would be betrayed, tried as a criminal and executed in the Roman way of his time: death by crucifixion" (Mk 11:1-10)

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.

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.

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 Easter 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.

RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to our Year 3 students who made their first reconciliation during the lead up to Easter. Children prepare for the sacrament through the parish with their families whilst a complementary program runs at school reinforcing the message learnt at home.

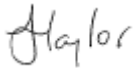
ENROLLING NOW FOR 2019

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2019 are now open. It is time for families with siblings ready to start school next year to complete an enrolment form and return it to the office at your earliest convenience.

SUPERVISION BEFORE SCHOOL

Supervision on the playground before school begins at 8:30am. Please note that any child being dropped off at school before 8:30am is expected to book into 'Before School Care' with Camp Australia or a supervised before school club activity. Siblings of children attending before school clubs cannot be left in the playground at the earlier time without supervision.

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



Fran Taylor
Principal

Religious Education



STAGE 3: LENT TO EASTER MODULE

In this module students will explore the Paschal Mystery as they tap into an understanding of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as they journey through the Season of Lent to Holy Week, culminating in Jesus' resurrection and the joy of the Easter Season.

During Lent, students will investigate how they can have a change of heart as they focus on forgiveness and compassion as shown in the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

During Holy Week, students will explore the two Gospels read on Passion (Palm) Sunday. They will be invited to compare the feelings of triumph and joy to those of desolation and despair and to anticipate the great joy of the Resurrection. They will discover that in our lives as in Jesus' life, we all experience both pain and joy and that our belief in Jesus always gives up hope.

For their continuing journey into the Easter Season students will focus on the great joy and hope that Jesus' resurrection brings to Christians. They will be invited to see that with God's grace, they can grow in faith, hope and love.

Through participation and involvement in the module as well as in the whole school '**Holy Week Liturgy**' and the Stage 3 Resurrection Liturgy, students will gain an awareness of the stories, actions and symbols of Lent and Easter.

ST PATRICK'S DAY GIFT FUNDRAISER - FRIDAY 16 MARCH

Thank you to all students who participated in our 'GIFT' fundraiser on Friday. We raised \$300 which will go to the purchase ingredients required for the 'cook offs'.



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>

HOLY WEEK AND RESURRECTION LITURGY

On **Thursday 29 March**, 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 **1W** will participate in Parish Mass on Wednesday **4 April**. All parents are welcome to join us.

'FAMILIES COME GATHER' MASSES

Our next **Families Come Gather** Mass will be this **Sunday 25 March (Passion Sunday)**. 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. There are still several roles to fill.

PRAYER ASSEMBLY

Thank you to **1W** for their beautifully reflective Prayer Assembly. The message from the story of Zacchaeus is an important one for us all to remember, particularly during Lent. Our next Prayer Assembly will be our **Resurrection Liturgy** presented by Stage 3 on Wednesday 4 April.

CELEBRATING LENT

Parents may find the following resources helpful.

Families and Lent - Acts of Love and Sacrifice

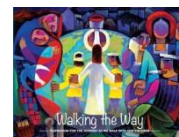
40 suggestions for putting Lent into practice at home and deepen your family's faith one day at a time.

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



School News

UPCOMING DATES

March

Sun 25th FCG Mass Yr 4
Tues 27th 7pm Boys Meeting for Parents
Thurs 29th Cross Country and Holy Week Liturgy
Fri 30th Good Friday

April

Mon 2nd Easter Monday
Tues 3rd **Staff Development Day** – Pupil Free

Wed 4th 2.30pm Resurrection Liturgy & Prayer Assembly – Stage 3
Mon 9th 2.30pm Core Value Assembly
Tues 10th Yrs 3 & 4 Soccer Gala Day
Thurs 12th Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day
Fri 13th Last Day Term 1
Mon 30th Term 2 commences

WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



Week 7	Respect Core Value	Merits
KB:	Tomas L	Gigi M and Thomas O
KW:	Scarlett H	Beau R and Darcy G
Yr 1B:	Beck M	Kingston S and Rose A
Yr 1W:	Sophie H	Jack V and Oliver T
Yr 2B:	Rae-Marie B	Alyssa W and Pedro S
Yr 2W:	Xanthe P	Hunter S and Rose F
Yr 3:	Sibella H and Osiin M	Jake C, Josephine B, Layla R and Henry W
Yr 4:	Riley M	Luca C and Sienna H
Yr 5/6	Clara B and Neisha M	Isabella C, Amelie M and Piper S

VACATION CARE

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

CODING

We love coding because we believe it helps us to learn to use a computer, and it has a lot to do with Science and Math. It can be challenging at times but Declan, the coding instructor, is always there to help. We have been making this really fun game called Pizza Juggling. In this game, we are programming a character to juggle a pizza. I liked this game as we got to physically move to play the game. Rather than taking us through step-by-step, Declan shows us the end product and gives us time to try to figure it out ourselves. Coding is challenging but that's what makes it fun. It also shows us what people do to make the games that we play!

Sophia & Charlize



Parent Network News

This week is filled with many thanks to our wonderful parents who have volunteered over the past week! You've set a great example of volunteering here at St Cecilia's.

OPEN DAY

Thank you to all of the parents who helped out at our successful Open Day! You are part of the reason our school is so wonderful and we couldn't do it without you!

HEAVEN ON EARTH

Thank you to all who joined last week's Heaven on Earth event. It was lovely to see you all there and truly an enriching experience.

GIFT: Giving in Faith Together

Thank you so much to the Year 3 parents who participated in the GIFT cook off on Monday 19 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 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>

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.

EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Be on the look-out for an Easter Colouring Competition from our Silver Sponsor, LJ Hooker Balgowlah, in your child's school bag this week. They are offering 2 family movie passes to give away to a couple of budding Picassos.





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

Upcoming Roster

Fri 23 March: Cheryl Strong and Janelle Manchee

Mon 26 March: Derville Peach and Kate Patterson

Wed 28 March Katharine Cook and Ana Rosa

EVERGREEN MUSIC

A break from school shouldn't mean a break from music...instead it's an opportunity to fill your whole day with it! If your kids love music there's no better option than our Evergreen Holiday Programs. Our themed workshops 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 ... make music with others!

These school holidays we'll be jamming along to some **MOTOWN** classics. A timeless music genre!

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!

[MOTOWN 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

Parish News

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to all the children who recently received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. Thanks to all the families for their commitment to the program and to the group facilitators and co-facilitators who so generously lead the small group sessions.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The sacramental journey continues for the children (who have completed the Sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation in Year 3 and older) and their families next term as the children will prepare for and receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Parent Information Meetings will be held the third week of Term 2 on either **Tuesday 15 May at 9.30am OR Wednesday 16 May at 7.00pm both in St Kieran's Church.**

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

Heaven on Earth

Walking Justly

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

Our first 'Heaven on Earth' morning centred on the theme of social justice. Facilitated by Teresa Pirola and Monica Officer, parents were invited to reflect on the source of their outreach—how our drive to help others begins at our family table and how simple gestures can often be the most powerful.



From our participants...

I thoroughly enjoyed the morning; it was a very peaceful and beautiful way to start the day and left me with a sense of calm & relaxation. I look forward to the next one. *—Melanie Nunn*

I always make sure these events are in my diary and look forward to them. They are like a warm cup of tea, and group hug all wrapped in one. I leave mentally refreshed and feeling incredibly grateful. *—Sonia Walsh*

I always try and attend 'Heaven on Earth'. It is a welcome chance to take a couple of hours out of my week once a term and meditate/reflect/chat with other parents about my spiritual and family life. When I leave I feel rested, settled and have better clarity about my perceptions, priorities and decisions. I highly recommend these sessions for all parents. *—Robyn Wunder*



It was a delightful and enriching morning! It brought me a different perspective around how to spread the sense of justice with my family. Very glad I attended it, and hope to see more of it in the coming months. *—Kate Santos*

Heaven on Earth was such a lovely morning and one that I found so enriching. It was a great opportunity to take a moment and connect with other St Cecilia's parents, to reflect and discuss our thoughts on parenting, our faith and life.

We looked at ways that we can help our children and others in their lives and discussed the obstacles that life can present us when we take a leap or try to better ourselves. The morning was so beneficial and at the same time we had a chat and a cuppa. I highly recommend that you block out an hour or so and attend one of these special mornings. *—Katrina D'Avolio*

Join us for quiet reflection, interactive discussion, coffee, conversation and practical parenting tips to help continue the journey.

2018 Dates

Friday 22nd June
Friday 14th September
Friday 30th November

Majella Brady—Parent liaison for Heaven on Earth
Nikki Delrennie—REC

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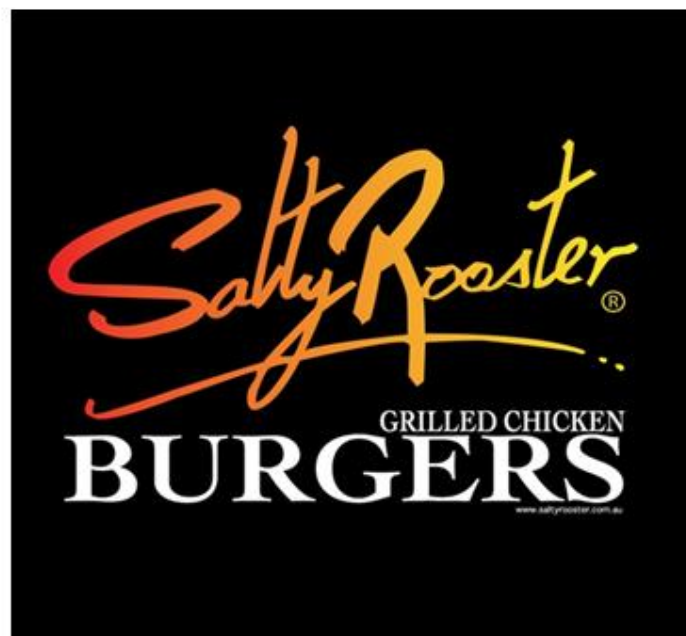
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