



# St Cecilia's Catholic School, Balgowlah

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Number 40 12 December, 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:** *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

*An Evening of Christmas Carols*

St Cecilia's family and friends are warmly invited to a night of Carols.

**Wednesday 12 December  
in St Cecilia's Church**

**Performances by the children commencing at 6pm**  
**Bring a joyful spirit and your singing voices!**

Dear Parents

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS 6:00PM TO 7:00PM 12 DECEMBER**

Our children are pleased to present a beautiful evening of carols due to begin tonight at 6:00pm sharp in St Cecilia's Church. The children are asked to wear majority red, green or white clothing and enclosed shoes for protection in the confined space. They are welcome to wear tinsel or decorative ribbons in their hair. Costumes will be supplied by the school for the children who will be playing the Nativity characters. These children will need to wear white or light clothing underneath their costume. On the night of the carols, Nativity characters will be required to arrive at 5.30pm and meet in the Year 3 classroom to change into their costumes. All other students are to arrive at 5.45pm and meet their teacher in their classroom prior to the carols.

### **SCHOOL REPORTS**

End of year academic reports will be emailed home tonight after the Christmas Concert. End of year parent/teacher interviews are optional and primarily for any parent concerned about their child's report. Whilst a vote of thanks to the teacher is highly appreciated please do not book an interview to say thank you. A note addressing your gratitude would be very much prized instead. The procedure for booking appointments will be emailed out with the reports along with

the student class requisite list for 2019. Please note this year you again have the option of ordering your child's requisites on line from Humphries.

For students returning in Years 1 to 6 2019, there will also be a note sent home shortly reminding you to book a short mathematics interview for the 29/30 January.

### **YEAR 6 GRADUATION 14 DECEMBER**

This Friday 14 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 onto 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.

### **FINAL ASSEMBLY AND ACADEMIC AWARDS 17 DECEMBER**

Our very special awards ceremony will commence at 2pm in the church on Monday 17 December. James Griffin our local State Member will be present at this assembly. Mr Griffin recently approved a grant of \$18500 from the Community Building Grants program that will go toward building our shade structure over the basketball court. This assembly will be the perfect opportunity to thank Mr Griffin. 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.

### **OUR THANKSGIVING LITURGY 19 DECEMBER**

Finally we will end the year with a Thanksgiving Liturgy on Wednesday 19 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 2019 School Captains, Liturgy Captains, Library Captains, Colour House Captains, Music and Environment Captains. At the conclusion of the liturgy, 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.

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

*Fran Taylor*

Fran Taylor  
Principal



## **Religious Education**

### **'GOOD SAM DAY': GIVING AND GRATITUDE**

#### **Hampers**

Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness in this Advent Season. We had a great response from the school community and delivered 22 hampers to local families along with Christmas gifts.

#### **Gratitude Trees**

The students in each class record things they are grateful for at this time of year. We turned these into 'Gratitude Trees' which are on display in the windows of the office area. Come in and have a read!



## UPCOMING LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

- Year 6 Graduation Mass—Friday 14 December, 1:45pm
- Thanksgiving Liturgy—Wednesday 19 December, 10:30am

All welcome!

## HEAVEN ON EARTH—PARENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION MORNING

In order to deliver faith formation opportunities that cater to the current needs of our parent community, we ask that you take a few minutes to complete the following questionnaire. Your feedback will help inform future planning around Heaven on Earth or other faith formation opportunities.

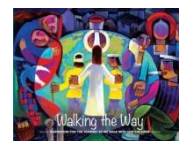
<https://goo.gl/forms/tSnHlpbb0Sj1utcl2>

## SHARING THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

In the rush and bustle of Christmas we may sometimes lose sight of the 'reason for the season'. Click [here](#) for some ways families can share the true meaning of Christmas from Janette Davidson, Family and Sacramental Minister Catholic Community of North Harbour.

## 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.dbbcsso.org/archive-2018-year-b.html>.



## **School News**

### WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Hope Core Value</b>	<b>Merits</b>
<b>KB:</b>	Cassius B	Emma P and Lily E
<b>KW:</b>	Maxence P	Hudson L-S and Darcy P
<b>Yr 1B:</b>	Arthur L	Darci M and Oliver M
<b>Yr 1W:</b>	Jamir H	Isabella B and Kyra K
<b>Yr 2B:</b>	Joshua S	Bertie N and Lachlan F
<b>Yr 2W:</b>	Lachlan S	William S-G and Willow B
<b>Yr 3:</b>	Oli T and Lillian W	Oscar W, Jake C, Jessana B and Tommy B
<b>Yr 4:</b>	Amalia C	Chloe V and Conor P
<b>Yr 5/6</b>	Orla C and Charlyze I	Isabella C, Monet D and Leila S

### UPCOMING DATES

#### **December**

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Reports home  
6pm Christmas Carols  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> 1.45pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> 2pm Core Value & Academic Assembly  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Thanksgiving Liturgy

**Last day for students**

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> SDD  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> SDD

#### **January 2019**

Wed 30<sup>th</sup> EMU and Best Start appointments  
Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> Yrs 1 – 6 commence

Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> Best Start Kinder appointments

#### **February**

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Kinder 2019 commence  
Tea and Tissues  
Tues 5<sup>th</sup> 6pm Meet the Teacher  
Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Class Parent meeting  
Fri 8<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Opening School Mass and  
Ceremony of Light  
Tues 12<sup>th</sup> School Banking commences  
Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Swimming Carnival  
Tues 19<sup>th</sup> P&F Exec meeting  
Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Welcome Cocktail Party

### DISPOSAL OF LOST PROPERTY

Please check the lost property basket for any items that may be yours. All items will be disposed of on Monday 17 December.

### HOLIDAY ROAD SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

When children are out of their usual routine, it is easy for them to forget that road rules still apply. On top of this, children in unfamiliar environments are confronted with different looking roads. Please read the following two important articles with pointers to keep your children safe.

- Hold My [Hand](#)
- Holiday Road [Safety](#)



## CHIFUNESE

Classes at St Cecilia's for 2019 will be held on Wednesday from 3.20-4.20pm. For information click [here](#).

### Parent Network News

- **P&F Executive Committee**

As we continue to assemble the committee for 2019, we are looking for a VP of Community! This role is a very important one, as it acts as the connector between Class Parents and the P&F Executive Committee. It's a role that we are looking to fill as soon as possible, so please contact Jamie Castaldo at [castaldojamie@gmail.com](mailto:castaldojamie@gmail.com) if interested, or even you have questions!

Additionally, we are looking for a Social Media Manager to join our Sponsorship Team. This role will support our sponsorship team throughout the year and is very easy to do from home or work, on your own schedule (likely just an hour or so a week). So, if you'd like to be involved, but can't be at the school, this could be the position for you! Please contact Jo Matthews at [jo.matthews.79@gmail.com](mailto:jo.matthews.79@gmail.com) or Derv Peach at [dervpeach@gmail.com](mailto:dervpeach@gmail.com).

- **St. Cecilia's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**

St Cecilia's School was founded by the Good Samaritan Sisters in 1929 and we will be celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. *If you have any ideas for how we could celebrate, please email Robyn Wunder who will be collating plans over the next week [robyn@thewunders.net](mailto:robyn@thewunders.net).*

- **Heaven on Earth - Parent Survey**

Heaven on Earth is offered to parents and parishioners to take some time out of their busy schedules to reflect on their own and their family's faith life. The sessions have been held once a term, both during the day or in the evenings. Guest speakers have been invited to facilitate topics such as: The Gift of Gratitude, The Gift of Courage, The Gift of Wisdom, The Gift of Compassion, The Gift of Mercy, Walking Justly, Walking the Way, River of Mercy, Christmas: Peace on Earth of going to pieces and An Advent Journey.

The program began in 2014 and we are now reviewing it. We invite you to answer the following questions. Your feedback will help us plan for the future of Heaven on Earth. It should take no more than 10mins of your time.

Questionnaire--<https://goo.gl/forms/HRRUcInaNA1fONb43>

With thanks from, Majella Brady (Heaven on Earth Coordinator and Mum) and Nikki Delrennie (St Cecilia's Religious Education Coordinator)

- **Welcome Cocktail Party**

Save the date for another lovely social night to welcome the new families to our wonderful school – **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**.

### Volunteer Corner

#### **(1) Vinnies Christmas Hampers THANK YOU!**

A BIG thank you to all the parents and siblings who helped sort, pack and wrap the Vinnies Christmas Hampers in the school hall last Friday! And thank you to all of you for continuing to support this important social justice activity with generous donations of items and gift cards. In all we had 21 hampers with many additional items, which were donated to both Dalwood Homes and Vinnies. A special thanks to **Jo Johnston** (Year 2) who coordinated the day; **Debbie from Copper Beach Florist** in Wanganella Street who kindly helped us with crafting; and **David Peach** (Year 1 and Kindy) with his trusty ute who transported the hampers at the end of the day.



**PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE:** Click [here](#) for the 2018 booklet.

## COMMONWEALTH SCHOOL BANKING

Thank you to all those children that have deposited money into their school banking accounts this year, we hope you have learnt good saving habits and enjoyed your rewards.

As we come to the end of the year, it's time to farewell Mel Nunn from our team. A big thank you Mel for your contribution each week. If you would like to join the Banking team next year, please email Kellie Chapman on [kchapman76@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kchapman76@optusnet.com.au). We meet each Tuesday at the bell for approx. 45 mins-1hr (toddlers welcome).

School banking will return in 2019 on Tuesday 12 February.

*The Banking Team – Kellie, Mel, Jodi and Jennifer*

## TENNIS 2019

Hi Tennis enthusiasts

2018 has been a great year with the children really enjoying their tennis, some early morning exercise and also some awesome and exciting improvements.

For 2019 I will be offering 3 mornings, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7.45-8.30am so please email me [bryannecrabb@gmail.com](mailto:bryannecrabb@gmail.com) or call me on 0403063013 to express interest. It will once again be on a first come basis and spots do fill quickly. Racquets are provided or you may bring your own

Also if you are planning on supporting the Aussie tennis players through the Summer holidays and are going to either Brisbane, Sydney or The Australian Open please let me know as Jaymon will be there coaching the Davis Cup players and there could be opportunities to meet them or at least get inside notes on where and when they are practising.

Thanks

*Bryanne*

## ANGELS AND SHEPHERDS AND OTHERS WANTED FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAMILY VIGIL

Children (Kindergarten 2018 and older) are invited to participate in a Christmas Liturgy at 5.30pm Christmas Eve at St Cecilia's.

We also require some older children for speaking parts. Any assistance from parents would be greatly appreciated.

We will have rehearsals on 16 December and 23 December both at 10am after 9am Mass


If your child is interested Please contact Bryanne ASAP [bryannecrabb@gmail.com](mailto:bryannecrabb@gmail.com)



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


### Upcoming Roster

Fri 14 Dec: Rob Pyne and **1 volunteer required**  
Mon 17 Dec: Brian Gilmartin and Nadine Meehan  
Wed 19 Dec: Open



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## AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE AT ST CECILIA'S

Onsite Science fun Monday afternoons after school

For more information or to book a place visit:  
<https://www.eyehartscience.com.au/stcecilia/>  
Or email: [alana@eyehartscience.com.au](mailto:alana@eyehartscience.com.au)

## **BROKEN BAY PARENT COUNCIL**

Link to the Broken Bay CSP Annual Report on the [CSP website](#)

CPS Year at a Glance - Link: <https://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com/2018-agm---celebrating-our-parent-community.html>

## **Parish News**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS AT 5.30PM AT ST KIERAN'S CHURCH**

All children are welcome to participate in this Mass and come dressed as angels and shepherds (optional). Any assistance with the following would be greatly appreciated:

\* Helpers to sit with angels and shepherds, \* Welcoming; \*Collecting, \* Ushers

Please contact Janette by phone 0408 866 521 or email at [sacraments@northharbourcatholic.org.au](mailto:sacraments@northharbourcatholic.org.au) if you and your family can assist in this joyous parish celebration.

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

## **Community News**

### **VACATION CARE**

Northern Beaches Council operates a very successful vacation care program for primary school aged children across the whole of the Northern Beaches. In the Summer school holidays we will have centres open at Cromer, Forestville, North Curl Curl and also at Manly Vale Community Centre.

With the December/January school holidays approaching fast, we have just released the holiday program on our website, with the Summer 2018/19 brochure containing lots of activities and ideas to keep children occupied. Copies of the brochure are available at the school or via the council website: [Northern Beaches Council Vacation Care](#)

## **Thank You to our Sponsors**

**Our Gold Sponsors are . . . . .**



The advertisement is a vertical banner with a red background on the left and a black background on the right, separated by a thin white line. At the bottom, there is a green grassy field. On the red background, there is a white logo for 'FREE RANGE BUTCHER MILLIN'S' featuring a cow and a chicken. Below the logo, it says '★ SINCE 2011 ★'. Further down, it says 'Order Online for Christmas' and 'www.millins.com.au'. At the bottom of the red section, it says '71a New St West, Balgowlah Heights'. On the black background, the text 'HAVE A MERRY' is in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by 'Millin's' in a large, white, cursive font, and 'Christmas' in a smaller, white, cursive font. Below this, there is a paragraph of text: 'The team at Millin's would like to thank the St Cecilia's school community for your support during another fantastic year as your Gold Sponsor.' followed by another paragraph: 'Wishing you a happy and safe holiday season with your family!'.

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*Millin's*  
*Christmas*

*The team at Millin's would like to thank the St Cecilia's school community for your support during another fantastic year as your Gold Sponsor.*

*Wishing you a happy and safe holiday season with your family!*



# HUMPHREYS

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\*The estimated cost of funding  
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Terms and Conditions: 1. This offer is for parents and children currently enrolled at St Cecilia's P.S. 2. The offer is valid for the 2018/2019 financial year.



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