



Celebrating 90 years

St Cecilia's Catholic School, Balgowlah

59 Seaview Street, Balgowlah 2093

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Number 24 7 August, 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: **Service**

School Rule: Help others in our school, wider community and the world

Scripture: Be ready for service and keep your lamps burning. *Luke 12:35*

Story: Washing the Disciples Feet: Help others to learn in the classroom

Principal's News



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School tours can be arranged by appointment.

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Dear Parents

Stay awake!

In Luke's Gospel Jesus says, "See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit" (*Lk 12:35*). There are many reasons why it is important to be alert and vigilant. One reason is to be fully 'awake' to life as a gift from God, filled with grace and calling us to respond wholeheartedly to those around us. How can we teach this kind of 'wakefulness' to our children?

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

COMPASS

A new student information system, Compass, is on the way ...

Our school community will shortly start using a new student information system called Compass. It is expected that Compass will be rolled out to all systemic Catholic schools in our diocese over the next six months.

What is Compass?

Compass is a whole school administration system. It will streamline many school operations such as attendance, reporting and communication.

How will this impact you?

Later this term you will receive details about a Parent Portal and App which will enable you to access information online about your child/ren, anytime, anywhere, from any modern web-enabled device.

Initially you will be able to –

- View information on your child/ren's attendance
- Enter explanations for absences
- Receive school communications



- Update your contact details
More functionality will become available over time – we will keep you updated!

DISCO

Thank you to the Kindy and Year 3 parents who gave up their Friday night to arrange and supervise the School Disco for our children. By all accounts an amazing time was had by all. A special thank you to our Parent Network team led by Jamie Castaldo and Sheridan Millward for your leadership of the event.



GALA DINNER



Our amazing Parent Network team have not paused for breath. No sooner have they dimmed the Disco lights, they are on the job promoting and finalising the Gala Dinner. After many hours of preparation by our amazing Year 2 parents, the Gala Dinner is organised and promises to be a real celebration for 90 years of educating children at St Cecilia's. You will have received your invitations to the event last week. We are very grateful to all of our sponsors who are supporting us this year. Some have sponsored us for a number of years whilst others are new this year. Last year the Gala Dinner allowed us to continue to offer coding lessons from Years 1 to 6 and to build the shade structure over the basketball court.

This year we are hoping to raise enough to continue to update readers, provide coding lessons, update technology and display our core values in the play environment.

GALA VIDEO

One of the highlights of the year for our children is the filming of the Gala Night Kids Production. For families new to the school this involves the entire school performing to a popular song. This is then played to parents on the night of the Gala Dinner.

Children come to school in their sports uniform but bring a touch of green. In general the producers of the film would love the kids to wear or bring just a 'touch' of green such as a hat, ribbon, bow, sunnies etc.

Also, if any of the children have capes they could bring or could make a foil star (maybe on a stick if it's safe) (15-30cm is diameter) that would be appreciated.



OPEN TO LEARNING 16 AUGUST K TO 6 WITH A FOCUS ON STEM

At St Cecilia's we value parent's partnership in educating our children. To this end we hold *Open to Learning* mornings twice a year and parent/teacher/student meetings twice a year. In addition we send home weekly learning intentions and hold special open mornings for mothers, fathers and grandparents.

This term the focus of our open invitation to view class learning is the STEM subjects to compliment a new initiative introduced by our cluster of catholic schools known as **The Northern Beaches 2019 Catholic Schools STEM Challenge**.

Students from Year 3 to 6 have been challenged to work on a solution or problem with links to the Science and/or the Geography syllabus. The challenges are based strongly on inquiry and design processes incorporating Working Scientifically and Working Technologically. The challenge components include- research, experimentation, model design/construction and reflections, incorporating the Science strands- Living World, Chemical World, Physical World, Earth/Space & Digital Technologies or the Geography strands People, Places and the Environment.

We are inviting parents to attend our **OPEN TO LEARNING** morning on **Friday 16 August** between 9:15 and 10:15am to offer our students valuable constructive feedback on their challenges. After this visit we will choose one challenge from Stage 3 and one from Stage 2 to be presented at the Northern Beaches 2019 Catholic Schools STEM Challenge at St Pauls on the 23 August.

Whilst our younger classes will not be involved in the competition they are delighted to share their learning with you. I would encourage all parents to spend some time with their own class but then move onto other grades to get an understanding of STEM across the school.

GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDFRIENDS DAY

There is a lovely tradition at St Cecilia's where Grandparents are invited to attend school for the morning. This year it will be held on Friday 23 August to again coincide with Book Week.

On this day Grandparents or Grandfriends are invited to attend school, visit classrooms and to purchase a book from the Book Fair for their grandchildren. Books may also be purchased as donations to the school library.

The program for the day is as follows.

- 9.15am Liturgy K-6- in the church
- 10:15am Morning Tea for the Grandparents-
- 10:30am Visits to classrooms- a visit to the Book Fair may occur in this time
- 11:00am Morning Tea for students in playground - Book Fair continues
- 11.30am Grandparents/friends depart school, children return to class

The social committee will call on class parents to help organise the morning tea for our guests.

BOOK WEEK - "READING IS MY SECRET POWER".

It is that time of year again. Numerous activities/incursion/learning experiences will take place at St Cecilia's during book week. These will include:

- Grandparents Day Friday the 23 August - Book fair/stall in the hall.
- Author visit and book week parade Tuesday 20 August
- Buddy reading- during peer support. Students are invited to bring their favourite book to share with other children on Thursday 22 August
- One shortlisted book will be allocated to each class. Beginning next week and during Book Week the children will engage in learning tasks associated with the book.

HEAVEN ON EARTH Thursday 8 August

All parents and friends are invited to join us on Thursday for a morning of meditation and reflection. Our guest presenter this term is Eulalie O'Keefe. Eulalie is a qualified educator and spiritual director. She has extensive experience in educational fields, in counselling and various areas of ministry. We are very fortunate to have her facilitate the morning. Please join us.



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

F Taylor

Fran Taylor
Principal

Religious Education



ST MARY OF THE CROSS: FEAST DAY - 8 AUGUST

Thursday, 8 August, is the feast of **St Mary of the Cross**, Australia's first saint. Mary was a person of great faith who trusted God to care for her and provide for her. She was a person of action who, when she saw a need, did something about it. We are called to be like Mary, to be people of hospitality and welcome, to be people of action.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

In the Catholic Church in Australia, there are two Holy Days of Obligation. One of these, the **Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, falls on **Thursday 15 August**. The whole school will gather for Mass in the church to celebrate this important feast of Our Lady. **Please see below the Mass Invitation for further details.**



THANK YOU

Special thanks to **Sara Toia**. Over the past few months she has been busy making prayer cloths for the classrooms and for the school foyer. We thank Sara for giving up her time and for her commitment to ensuring the prayer cloths were made in such a professional way.

CONFIRMATION

Please keep our Year 2 students in your prayers as they are currently preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

'FAMILIES COME GATHER' MASSES'

Our next 'Families Come Gather' Mass will be on **Sunday 25 August** and will involve **Year 2** families. Year 2 families will receive information at the beginning of August regarding this Mass.

WEDNESDAY PARISH MASS

Today 3W attended the Parish Mass. Next week KW will be attending the Parish Mass. Everyone is welcome to attend!

PRAYER ASSEMBLY

Our next prayer assembly will be on **Monday 12 August**. This assembly will be led by **KW**. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

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-2019-year-c.html>

God bless,

Tanya Fitzpatrick, Religious Education Coordinator



*An invitation
to the
Mass
honouring the
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

at

St Cecilia's Catholic Church

Thursday 15 August

at

9.15am.

*"For the Almighty has done great things for me.
His name is holy."*

Luke 1: 49

School News

WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



Week 2	Term 3 Service	Core Value	Merits
KB	Lola L		Havana G and Max O
KW	Isla W		Lily K and Sebastian C
1B:	Mia O		Natalie E and Lily E
1W:	Grace H		Justine A and Miles M
2B:	Kingston S		Joseph S and Oliver M
2W:	Joshua P		Lucas R-D and Samuel S
3B:	William O		Edward C and Finlay D
3W:	Xavier F		Scarlett H and Caiden M
Yr 4	Lily A and Jake C		Danica P, William P, Oli T and Thomas A
Yr 5/6	Orla C and Milly R		Eva H, Chloe K and Ruby S

UPCOMING DATES

August

Thurs 8th Heaven on Earth
Fri 9th Gala video day
Book Club orders close (am)
Mon 12th 2.30pm Prayer Assembly KW
Thurs 15th 9.15am Feast of the Assumption
Fri 16th 9.15 – 10.15am Open to Learning morning
Mon 19th Life Education commences
Tues 20th Book Parade
Wed 21st Buddy reading
Thurs 22nd Book Fair parade and author visit
Northern Beaches Athletics Carnival
Fri 23rd Book Fair
9.15am Grandparents/Grand friends
Liturgy
Mon 26th 2.30pm Prayer Assembly 2B

Tues 27th 7pm P&F General meeting

Wed 28th School Photos

September

Tues 3rd Broken Bay Athletics
ICAS Digital Technologies
Thurs 5th ICAS Science
Fri 6th Fathers' Friday Yrs 2, 4 & 6
Sat 7th Gala Dinner
Mon 9th 2.30pm Prayer Assembly 3W
Tues 10th ICAS Spelling
Cyber Safety workshop Yr 4-6
Fri 13th 9 – 10.15pm Learning Together Playgroup
Tues 17th ICAS English
Wed 18th Night of the Notables
Thurs 19th Good Sam Day
ICAS Maths

BOOK CLUB

All orders for the current issue on Book Club close Friday morning 9 August.

OPERA AUSTRALIA PRESENTS 'BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON'

St. Cecilia's have been learning about opera and the poem *The Owl and the Pussycat* by Edward Lear in their Music lessons with Jocelyn Roberts. On Wednesday, Opera Australia performed an elaborated version of this poem for us. We are so lucky to have this opportunity to watch and learn about this art form.



Paul Clapham 0417 066 576; email: paultkd@me.com or greg@wyllietkd.com **Student Voice**

ENVIRONMENT LEADERS' DAY 2019 – TARONGA ZOO

This week the Stage 3 Environment Captains and one of our School Captains were given the opportunity to attend a workshop at the zoo. They learnt how we can create positive changes and how we can change the way we do simple things to save the environment.



They started the day by listening to a talk from the Australian Geographic Young Conservationist of the Year, Sophia Skarparis. She inspired them to do little things to help in saving our environment, like bringing their own coffee cup rather than using a single use one. They also received a lot more information throughout the day.

Then they attended a workshop on how to make positive changes in their local and wider environments. They also worked on goal-setting and persuasive writing so that they could better convince readers that we all need to make a difference in our environment.

Their final workshop was the 'Woodland Classroom' where they learnt about endangered animals and how to build homes for them because there are not enough homes and burrows for animals such as possums, gliders and birds. They also got an up-close and hands-on experience with a glider and blue-tongue lizard. In the end, they also have a lot of great knowledge that can be brought back and shared with the school.

Parent Network News

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Parents!

Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone who helped out with the Disco, especially the Kindy and Year 3 Parents – the night was very successful and the children had a great time!

Next, lots of Fundraising Gala updates!

- By now, you would have all received the VERY exciting Fundraising Gala invitation. If you haven't yet, please hop onto QKR and reserve your tickets – it will be a fun-filled evening for everyone!
- Also, you will have all seen the "Special Edition Newsletter" sent last Friday via email. You should definitely get onto GalaBid so that you can bid on all of the Silent Auction items. If you sign up before this Friday 9 August, you are eligible to enter the "Room Raffle" – that's a night at the Gala venue, the Novotel Manly! (Instructions are in the Special Edition Newsletter!)
- This Friday, 9 August is the day that the children will participate in the Gala school video shoot. Please send children with "a touch of green!"

Lastly, I want to remind you all that the Term 3 General Meeting will take place in three weeks, during Week 6 on 27th August at 7pm in the School Hall, please join us for this informative meeting. All are welcome!

X

Jamie

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Heaven on Earth

Our next Heaven on Earth morning is this Thursday 8 August at 9am - 10.30, continuing with the theme of meditation.

Meals on Wheels

St Cecilia's assists our local Meals on Wheels program each Monday morning. It involves driving and accompanying the Year 5/6 students to deliver meals to recipients in our local area. It generally takes only 1.5 hours (11.40am - 1.10pm). **Please volunteer for this term...** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0949aaae2ca6f94-meals1>



The **roster** can be found through the school website under the School Community/Volunteering tab or click [here](#)
2019 Canteen Menu: click [here](#)

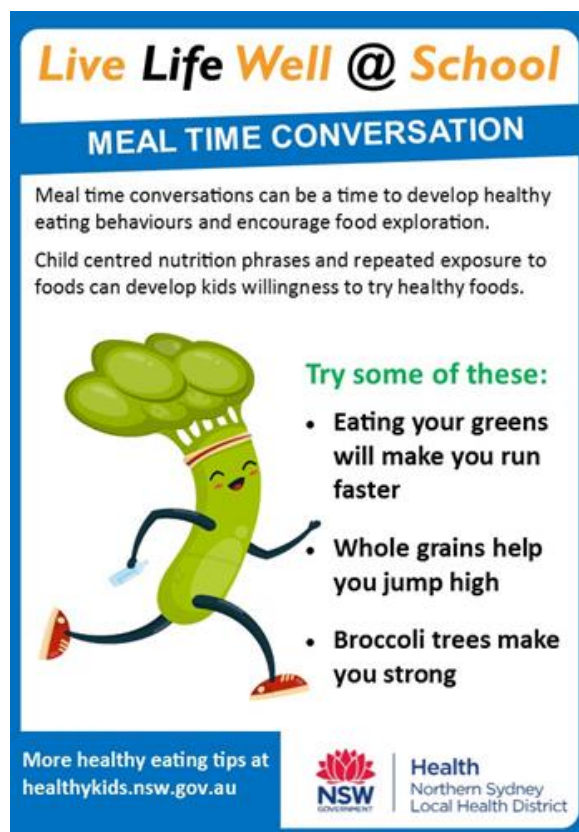
Upcoming Volunteers:

Fri 9 Aug: Helena McGrath and Jane Thompson Kench

Mon 12 Aug: Nadine Meehan and Jo Little

Wed 14 Aug: Claire Patra

Fri 16 Aug: Harmony Osborne and Lisa Thorpe-Apps



Parish News

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM NEWS

Sacramental Program Reminders

Parents are reminded of the following:

- Practice – the children will practice what is involved in the Confirmation ceremony **Tuesday 13 August at 4pm in St Kieran's Church OR Wednesday 14 August at 4pm in St Cecilia's Church OR Wednesday 14 August at 7pm in St Kieran's Church.**

Parents are also reminded that the Practice will be the last opportunity to check details re Confirmation Name, Sponsor and session times are correct. Confirmation cards will be prepared for the ceremony on Thursday 15 August (morning) with the details at that time.

Can you please forward details of your child's Confirmation Name and details of Confirmation Sponsor to Janette if you have not already provided this information?

Please contact Janette on 0408 866 521 or at sacraments@northharbourcatholic.org.au if you have any questions re the above.

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

Confirmation Gifts

For those last minute Confirmation gifts the Parish Piety Shop will be OPEN this Sunday 11 August from 10am till 11.30am - we have a great range of well-priced gifts and Confirmation cards. Eftpos available. Located in the foyer of the parish centre.

Community News

MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE CHATSWOOD

Open morning Tuesday 13 August from 9 – 11am. Mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au / mercy@dbb.catholic.edu.au / 02 9419 2890

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Anél 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. Anél 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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