



# St Cecilia's Catholic School Balgowlah

*Celebrating*  
Respect  
Justice  
Service  
Hope

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Phone: 9948 3069

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Number 40 11 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

**DISCOVER WHAT A CATHOLIC EDUCATION CAN OFFER YOUR CHILD.**

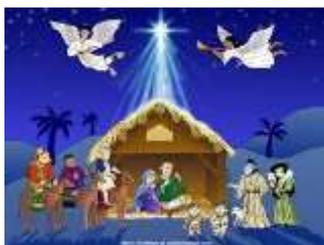
A rigorous curriculum underpinned with the Catholic values of Respect, Service, Justice, Hope and Celebration.

School tours can be arranged by appointment.

**ST CECILIA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL** 59 Seaview St Balgowlah NSW 2093  
TEL 02 9948 5370 EMAIL [scb@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:scb@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

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## Pope Francis encourages nativity scenes in homes



Pope Francis has written an [Apostolic Letter](#) in which he encourages the family tradition of setting up a Christmas creche in the home in the days before Christmas. "The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture", writes the Pope. Contemplating the Christmas story is like setting out on a spiritual journey. So great is God's love for us, that God became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with God.

DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Dear Parents

### SCHOOL REPORTS

End of year Academic Reports will be posted on Compass today. **Please note any family leaving the school will need to download their child's report by the end of December as access to Compass will no longer be accessible.** Parent/teacher interviews will again be offered to all parents from 12 to 16 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. To book an appointment simply log into compass. The student class requisite list for 2020 will be emailed to you. Please note this year you again have the option of ordering your child's requisites on-line from Humphries or sourcing them yourself elsewhere.



### FINAL ASSEMBLY 16 DECEMBER AND ACADEMIC AWARDS 2:15PM

Teachers have finalised 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. At this final assembly for the year we will also announce the recipients of the Core Value 'Hope' Award and the Patrick Anthony Award. All parents are invited to join us to celebrate the achievements of our students at this ceremony.

### CHOIR

Tonight 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. Why not bring the family to the RSL tonight to support our choir and sing along.

### 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.

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed from 19 December for the Christmas break. Teachers return on Tuesday 28 January Students are asked to book in on-line via **Compass to attend a 20 min Mathematics assessment** on Wednesday 29 January.

- **THURSDAY 30 JANUARY IS THE FIRST FULL DAY FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 1-6**
- **KINDERGARTEN BEGIN ON FRIDAY 31 JANUARY**

Regards



Fran Taylor  
Principal

*Celebrating Respect, Justice, Service and Hope.*

## Religious Education



### WEEK 2: ADVENT

During the second week of Advent, we focus on John the Baptist's challenge: Prepare the way of the Lord. The second **candle** is called the **Bethlehem Candle** as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. This candle also symbolises **Peace**. It is a sign that God's promises will be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ - Prince of Peace.

**Prayer:** God of expectation, may we, your people, who prepare a way for the Lord, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate the feast of Christ with love and thanksgiving.



### SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SPIRITUALITY

#### THANK YOU...

The Social Justice & Spirituality Team is **a wonderful group of parent coordinators** who support the work of our community and our North Harbour Parish. They engage the St Cecilia's community to **serve, educate** and **raise funds** for people less fortunate through the following programs. **A BIG THANK YOU to our Social Justice Coordinator, Robyn Wunder and the 2019 Social Justice & Spirituality Team** who have ensured all these activities happened seamlessly during the year...

Hamper Appeals: **Alissa Volpe** coordinated **over 70 volunteers** to sort, fill and deliver **50 hampers** this year – 25 hampers for the Asylum Seekers Centre in May and 25 hampers for families along with many gift cards for our local chapter of Vinnies in December.

Meals on Wheels: **Emma Burton** coordinated **36+ parent volunteers** to accompany Year 5-6 students in delivering approximately **160 meals** in our local community this year.

Good Sam Days: **Jen Stegmann & Akosita Brown** assisted the SRC with Good Sam Days where we **donated \$1860** to Caritas, the Good Samaritan Foundation in honour of our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Augustinian Foundation in honour of Fr Dave's 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee and GIFT.

Docker River School: **Evelyn Paterson & Tania Hoang** coordinated two packages of **beautiful letters (Yrs 3-6) and artwork (K-Y2)** to be sent to and gratefully received by the indigenous students of Docker River Primary school this year.

Heaven on Earth: **Majella Brady & Robyn Wunder** assisted in planning and hosting three 'Heaven on Earth' mornings this year. We welcomed back Fr Paul who led us in a meditation series offering spiritual nourishment for busy parents and parishioners. **Over 50 people took part** in these sessions during the year.

Parish GIFT Program – St Cecilia's Cook-offs: **Evelyn Paterson** organised **7 year-group coordinators with at least 45 parents and teachers** to attend seven cook-offs during the year **producing over 700 meals** for vulnerable families served by the *Link Community* on the Northern Beaches.

Millie Smith: **Orla Keane & Jen Stegmann** coordinated the collection, sorting and selling of pre-loved uniforms this year. We **raised and donated \$1800** for Good Samaritan Foundation, Bula Books Fiji, food for our GIFT cook-offs, and baskets for the hamper appeals.

#### **WELCOME...**

This year we welcomed three new members to the Social Justice and Spirituality Team: Jen Stegmann (Millie Smith), Alissa Volpe (Hamper Appeals) and Akosita Brown (Good Sam Days).

#### **A SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT...**

We also give a huge debt of gratitude to two outgoing long-standing members of the Social Justice and Spirituality Team: **Orla Keane (Millie Smith) and Jo Johnston (Hamper Appeals)**. Both Orla and Jo have given generously of their time and expertise in coordinating these activities over the past eight years. **THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU AGAIN to Robyn Wunder and the Social Justice and Spirituality team for your dedication and to the St Cecilia's community for your generosity.** This important work would not be possible without you!

#### **GOOD SAM DAY AND YEAR SIX FUN DAY**



Last week we had our final Good Sam Day for the year. The students enjoyed raising money by participating in the Year 6 Fun Day. The students raised \$560 on the day. These funds will be used by the Year 6 students to purchase their gift for the school.

As part of our Good Sam Day celebrations each child coloured and cut out a musical instrument. Special thanks to Akosita Brown and Clare Miller for creating the number 90 with the instruments. We used instruments to remember St Cecilia who is the patron saint of music and to continue our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations.

#### **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 3** attended the parish Mass. Next week no classes will attend the Parish Mass as the students will all be participating in our Thanksgiving Liturgy in the afternoon.

#### **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*

### WEEKLY AWARDS

We congratulate this week's Awards' recipients.



Week 9	Term 4 Hope Core Value	Merits
KB	Sofia P	Olav S and Isabella C
KW	Harriet C	Thomas K and Matilda G
1B:	Jacob P	Lewis W and Maxence P
1W:	Paola B	Georgia J and Amelia S
2B:	Imogen H	Madeleine A and Charlie G
2W:	Samuel S and Christian G	Joshua B and Zachary B
3B:	Eleanor M	James P and Bella T
3W:	Scarlett H	Luca G and Caiden M
Yr 4	Benjamin H and Nicholas G	Danica P, Harper V, Thomas A and Annabel S
Yr 5/6	Isabella M and Ruby S	Chloe K, Isabella C and Sophie D

### UPCOMING DATES

#### December

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Spelling Bee for Yrs 3 – 6  
Reports available on Compass

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Rain Dance

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> 1.45pm Yr 6 Graduation Mass

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> 2.15pm Final Assembly & Academic Awards

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Thanksgiving Mass  
Last day for students

#### January 2020

Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Teachers return

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> MAI Yrs 1 – 6 and Best Start Kinder

Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Yrs 1 – 6 Commence, Best Start Kinder,  
Kinder picnic 2pm

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Kinder 2020 commence

#### February

Tues 4<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm Meet the Teacher

Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Class Parent meeting

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> 9.15am Ceremony of Light

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Swimming Carnival 9am – 12pm

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> P&F Welcome Cocktail evening

Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Stage 3 FCG Mass

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday

### LIBRARY NEWS

Please remember to return all library books.

Thank you

*Stephanie Harding*

### PICKLES UNIFORM SHOP

Pickles are currently moving to 43 Carter Road Brookvale and will re-open Monday 16 December. They will close for the Christmas break on Saturday 21 December at 1pm and reopen Friday 3 January. All online orders close Sunday 19 January [www.picklesschoolwear.com](http://www.picklesschoolwear.com).

### 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.

### DRAMA

Congratulations to all the children who performed so beautifully at the End of Year Drama Production, and thank you to our supportive and appreciative audience. Thank you also from Hollie and myself for the beautiful flowers. We are very proud of all the children's achievements this year.

Thank you as well to the Stage 3 class and teachers who made 12 beautiful books for my grandson Orson. He will treasure them always. Orson's leukaemia has not gone into remission quite as expected and he is now on a more intensive treatment protocol but he is still fighting and your prayers and good wishes are much appreciated. Best wishes to all for a happy Christmas and New Year.

*Trish Collier – Stagersworks Drama Teacher*

### MUSIC PROGRAM NEWS

This week is our final week of group classes for our musicians. Thank you for a fun year!

A big thank you to our wonderful teachers Jacquie (keyboard), Ben D (guitar) and Dave (Percussion) who have been making music with the kids every Friday morning.

**2020 Enrolments for our Group Classes are NOW OPEN!**

We would LOVE to welcome new families and members to join our music [program](#). All enrolments are via the following google docs link: <https://forms.gle/nH5hZbyMZ1mEAaXHA>

We are looking forward to another wonderful year at St Cecilia's with lots of musical [opportunities!](#)

*Ben Marshall & Deb Mauro - Evergreen Music*

**Parent Network News**



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

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

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

**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](mailto:jennyfromthehutt@hotmail.co.uk)).

## REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIR

St Cecilia's Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - 5:30pm 24 December

We would like to invite the school choir and any other children (Year 3 and above) who would like to sing at the Vigil Mass, to be a part of the Children's Choir.

Please register online, using the link below

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/CatholicCommunityOfNorthHarbour/ChristmasNativity2019Choir>

Rehearsals will take place at St Cecilia's Church at the following times:

- 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 22 Dec)

If you have any questions please contact Tim Boys (0412 349 635).

Thank you!

## THANK YOU FROM LINK

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have graciously given their time this year preparing meals for the Parish GIFT Program. We have been able to provide nearly 2000 meals to the LINK Community Care Program and given freely to our neighbours in need on the northern beaches.



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 13 Dec: Susie Warren and Kasia Wickham

Mon 16 Dec: Lauren Kinsella and **1 volunteer required**

Wed 18 Dec: Rob Pyne and **1 volunteer required**

**Please note there will only be limited hot food on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>.**

### **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.

### Live Life Well @ School

#### WATERMELON CHRISTMAS TREES



**Makes 6-8 trees**

**Ingredients:** 1/4 watermelon

**Method:**

1. Slice the watermelon into triangles of 2cm thickness and 10cm base width, leaving the rind on.
2. Trim the rind of each triangle to make a tree stump.

**Handy tip:**  
Serve these cute watermelon Christmas trees at end-of-year class parties.

For more ideas, search 'Christmas' at [healthy-kids.com.au](http://healthy-kids.com.au)

NSW GOVERNMENT | Health Northern Sydney Local Health District

## 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup>)

## Community News

### POSITION VACANT

St Kieran's Catholic Primary School Manly Vale is looking for a new Canteen Coordinator. If you are interested please click here for details. <https://www.teachers.on.net/vacancy/34463/>

### NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL VACATION CARE

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

### EVERGREEN MUSIC CAMP

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*



#Findyourjoy

Cunninghams

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

## Thank You to our Sponsors



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**FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS**



Dr. Aneli Bignaut from Manly Orthodontics is happy to support St Cecilia's Primary Catholic School community for the fifth year running. Aneli 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.

Aneli 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. Aneli 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) This offer is valid to the 30/11/2023 financial year.



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