The greatest discovery of any generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering the attitudes of their minds.

Albert Schweitzer

ATTITUDE

Happiness isn’t about what happens to us - it’s about how we perceive what happens to us. It’s the knack of finding a positive for every negative, and viewing a setback as a challenge. If we can just stop wishing for what we don’t have, and start enjoying what we do have, our lives can be richer; more fulfilled – and happier. The time to be happy is now.

Lynn Peters

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents & Guardians

This week we saw our first cyclone action plan take effect. Thank you to our wonderful staff, parents and students who followed our action plan well. As you are all aware the yellow alert was called on Monday afternoon at 3.00 o’clock, allowing us to complete our day and to have all students leave by car or bus as usual. Thank you to our students for helping to put away all the benches and tidying up the school area. Once school finished we had some wonderful staff and parents who volunteered to take down all the shade sails and place them safely in the sports shed. It is wonderful to see the way everyone jumps to assist in lightening the load. You would have noticed that we have not yet put the shade sails back up. There is another low forming early next week, so we will wait to see if another cyclone develops. If by Wednesday no cyclone has appeared, I would ask for some wonderful Dads to assist us in putting our shade sails back, as it is necessary to have shade for our students.

Computers

At last our computers have arrived and we can officially begin computer classes with Mr Sta Maria. This is a fantastic achievement made possible by our outstanding P&F. Last year the P&F held an amazing School Fete and were able to raise the funds for our Computer Lab. Thank you to Mr Sta Maria and Miss Campbell for staying late last night to make sure that the computers were put together and ready to run today. Thank you also to our students for helping to clear away all the computer boxes and packaging material that our new computers came in. Parents who are interested in having a

VISION STATEMENT

St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School is a multi-cultural Catholic School where staff, parents and students strive to provide a secure environment concerned with the spiritual, moral, social, emotional and intellectual development of each person. We endeavour to create an atmosphere of openness, mutual respect and loyalty within the school community.
look at the lab please see Mr Sta Maria for a guided tour of our new facility. This is a wonderful achievement and I know that the students will gain so much from the time they spend in this terrific environment.

Swimming Training
Unfortunately due to the cyclone the Swimming Pool has been closed and will remain closed for the rest of this week. This means we will be unable to hold our swimming training for the Years Three to Year Seven students on Friday. Please remind the students that they will not need to bring their bathers tomorrow. The next swimming training session was to be held on Thursday 3 March, but we shall wait to see if the pool will re-open. Miss Campbell and I are exceptionally pleased with the amazing standard of the students swimming ability and look forward to the training resuming.

Swimming Carnival
We will be holding our Faction Swimming Carnival on Friday 25 March. The carnival will begin at 9.00am and should conclude around 2.00pm, for all students from Pre-Primary to Year Seven. It is an amazing day and we hope many of our parents will be able to join us. We are hoping that a number of parents will be able to offer their services on the day in helping as place judges and giving out ribbons. The Interschool Carnival will be held on Friday 8 April so make sure you mark these dates on your calendar at home.

Christmas Concert DVD
I know that many parents have been asking about the DVD that was made of our Christmas Concert last year. If you are interested in having your own copy of the concert please fill in the slip near the end of this newsletter. We will need to know the exact number to prepare. **This is a one time offer only, we need to know numbers by next Tuesday 01 March.** Please take the time to fill the order form if you would like to acquire a copy of the DVD and return it with $5 per DVD to the school office by the due date.

Before and After School Play
Each morning and afternoon in the Kindergarten and Pre-Primary area I am noticing that a number of students together with their siblings are playing in this area. As you are aware we have a no play zone in this area before and after school there is no supervision and this is a time for staff to put out equipment for the day. Parents please to refrain from allowing your children to enter into this play area before and after school. The equipment must be left alone as many children are moving the equipment which potentially could harm themselves.

Shrove Tuesday
This year we will be holding a special event on Shrove Tuesday, 8 March in our School Hall for School and Parish. I am hoping that a number of our parents would be able to make pancakes for Tuesday evening. If you are able to cook up a stack or two of pancakes would you please give your names to Hilary in the front office as this would be appreciated.

Electronic Devices
We have had many students bringing electronic devices such as DS’s, Ipods etc to school and these are being played on the school buses. These items are not to be brought to school!

Children and Learning
At the very centre of the school’s work is the individual child. We know a lot about children and how they learn. Through this knowledge, teachers plan for your child’s educational needs and development. We know:

- **Children are special:** Children truly have a marvellous variety of abilities, interests and characteristics that make each one special. This uniqueness deserves the respect of every parent and teacher.
- **Children need time to be children:** We should not hurry childhood. Too many pressures, too much emphasis on using every minute productively, on achieving maximum results, can rob children of their right to live fully as children.
- **Children pass through stages:** As each year passes, they develop new ways of thinking and solving problems; they are able to manage their feelings and their social skills are developing.
Children reach these stages at different times. In any one class teachers have to make allowances for a wide range of maturity levels, interests and readiness to tackle new challenges.

- **Children want to know:** Children are naturally active, curious, creative, searching individuals. They are born learners; learning is what they do best. By the time they start school they have learnt a language and that is a fantastic accomplishment!

- **Children have needs:** Children need love, acceptance, limits on their behaviour, challenge and success. These all help them to grow and develop their abilities to the full.

- **Children need expectations:** Children tend to live up, or down, to the expectations of important people in their lives. They thrive on high expectations and as long as they are supported through their mistakes, they learn that successful learning often requires considerable risk-taking.

- **Children need to play:** Play is a child’s natural way of learning about the world and their place in it. Through informal play, they create meaning, stretch their imagination, practice social skills, try out ideas and learn how to cope with problems.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

PARISH NEWS

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**
Saturday 7.15pm
Sunday 10.00am

**ST CECILIA’S PARISH**
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 8.30am
Mon-Fri 8.00am Morning Prayer & Mass

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**
This Sunday 27 February, Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am by our Year Seven class in St Cecilia’s Church. During this liturgical celebration Max and Ella Smith will also be baptised into God’s family. It would be wonderful seeing many school families at Mass on Sunday to support both the Smith Family and our Year Seven class.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Tuesday March 8 is Shrove Tuesday also known as Pancake Tuesday. The parish extends an invitation to all families to come along to the school hall from 6pm. Pancakes will be available for a gold coin donation and there will also be raffles on the evening. Any parent willing to make pancakes for the evening please leave a message in the office with Hilary in the office.

Wednesday March 9 is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Church season of LENT. Lent is the season where we make a particular effort to live more like Jesus who sacrificed himself to save us. Lent is a time where we give to others less fortunate than ourselves, do without what is not necessary and also make an effort to come closer to God through prayer. There will be a School Mass beginning at 8.45am with burning of the ashes in the undercover area followed by a procession up to the church for mass. As this is a holy day of obligation the school office will be closed for the duration of the mass.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal Religious Education

**GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS**

**LIBRARY NEWS**
It is pleasing to see so many of our students borrowing and caring for our Library books. Just a reminder that students must have a library bag to borrow a book from the library. Sometimes students become upset when they forget their library bag, so here is a list of borrowing days.

Monday Year 3 and Year 6
Tuesday Pre-Primary, Year 5 and Year 7
Wednesday Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday Kindergarten and Year 4

Happy reading to all!

Miss Dee Campbell
Library Teacher

**CANTEEN**

**2011 Price List**
Please note that there is a new canteen price list effective from Monday 7 February. Please check that you are paying the correct amount to avoid small accounts being sent home. These were sent home to each family at the beginning of the term. Price lists are also available on the school’s website. [www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au](http://www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au)

**Lunch Bags**

Parents please note that lunch orders **MUST** be written on a brown/white paper lunch bag with the money inside. The canteen is receiving many orders on envelopes and in plastic bags etc. All orders need to be re-written on to paper bags and this is time consuming. Lunch bags can be purchased from Coles or Woolworths or they can be purchased from the canteen at 10 cents each. We suggest you purchase 10 or so at a time and these can be given to your child with their lunch order to take home.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs McLaughlin
Canteen Manageress

**FLOOD APPEAL FUNDRAISER**
Thank you to all students that supported the Flood Relief Free Dress Day. A total of $487.50 was raised.
Applications are invited for the following position to commence in approx Term 2, 2011.

**Junior Primary Teacher**  
(0.4 FTE)

Applicants must be fully supportive of the objectives and ethos of Catholic Education.

To obtain further information regarding this position please telephone 9173 2162.

Applications will need to be received by the school, addressed to the Principal, no later than **Friday, 11 March 2011, 4:00pm**.

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Applications are invited for the following position to commence immediately.

**Groundsperson/Gardener**  
Full-time

The type of duties required for this position include:
- Lawn mowing & Gardening
- Reticulation maintenance & repairs
- General Maintenance of School Grounds

To obtain further information regarding this position please telephone (08) 9173 2162.

Must have a Police Clearance and a Working with Children Check

Applications need to be addressed to the Principal, and received by the school no later than **Friday, 11 March 2011, 4:00pm**.

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking for 2011 will be on every Thursday from 8.00am to 8.30am in the library.

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**DONATIONS PLEASE**

We would appreciate any donations the following items:
- used stamps
- aluminium can ring pulls
- Ice-cream containers and lids
- Old batteries

These can be brought in to the front office.  
Mrs Rozario  
School Secretary

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**TERM PLANNER**

We have made many changes to the term planner. Please remember to check our website regularly for updates. Swimming dates and other dates have now been added to the planner.  
www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au

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**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

**FEBRUARY**

15 CORNELIUS, Nat K  
16 BUCKLAND, Damien Y6  
18 WILSON, Madeleine Y5  
21 MELLBERG, Tess Y5  
24 RETALLACK, Benjamin PP  
24 O’CONNELL, Fletcher Y1  
26 PRESS, Caelan Y3

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**MERIT AWARDS**

17 February 2011  
PP: Rohan Collins Charlotte Emmitt  
Mason Smith  
Yr1: Bethany Denny Alexander Lowe  
Yr 2: Teniyah Burton Takudzwa Hunya  
Yr 3: Jasmine Singleton  
Yr 4: Caeley Cecich Bayley Warren  
Yr 5: Natalie Butler Neel Kshirsagar  
Taylor Selfe William Tait  
Yr 6: Ruby Esmonde Patrick Selfe  
Klaas Willems  
Yr 7: Jaime Edmead Isaac Mann

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**BATTERY RECYCLING INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

In 2010 the Town of Port Hedland and Care for Hedland began a battery recycling program within the local primary schools. Throughout the year a total of 133.72kg of batteries were recycled. This is a fantastic result for our environment and a great learning opportunity for our children.

This program will continue to run during 2011. As per last year each school is asked to collect domestic batteries for recycling. In Week 9 (or early Week 10) of each term the batteries from each participating school will be collected and weighed. The school with the most weight in batteries will be awarded $200 to the associated Parent and Friends Association.

The types of batteries to be recycled will include the following:
- Primary (Single use) – batteries typically found in toys, watches/clocks, smoke alarms, audiovisual equipment and remote controls ie. AAA, AA, C, D etc...
- Secondary (Rechargeable) – commonly found in cordless drills, mobile phones, laptops, PC’s, shavers and cameras.

Please note we are not collecting car batteries.
CYCLONE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS
The following cyclone information has been distributed to each family. For future reference this has also been placed on the school website.
www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au

ST CECILIA’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
CYCLONE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Please refer to FESA Cyclone Information for further clarification.

AN APPROACHING CYCLONE

Cyclone Watch/Warning
Staff and students attend school as normal.

Blue Alert
The school remains open. A cyclone may produce gales (gusts exceeding 90km/h) within 48 hours. Keep up to date with the development of the cyclone through radio on
N.W Radio (frequency 1026AM and 91.7FM)
ABC Radio (frequency 603AM)
[If the school is to close this information will be broadcast between 6:30pm and 6:45pm, and between 6:30am and 6:45am on the relevant Radio stations]
Or through Television and/or internet (www.bom.gov.au)
The closure advice will be repeated each morning and evening until the decision to reopen the school is made.
Before your child goes to school, make specific arrangements to have him/her picked up from school should the Yellow Alert be declared during the school day. Ensure that your child knows what these arrangements are.

All information and updated reports relating to warnings and school closures ARE ISSUED ON THE RADIO. Keep yourself informed and PLEASE DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL.

Yellow Alert
If a yellow alert is called during the school day, SCHOOL WILL CLOSE. Parents must pick up their children from their classroom immediately.

Red Alert
School will remain shut during a Red Alert. All community members are expected to remain indoors and stay tuned to the local radio broadcast until the Red Alert has been called off.

AFTER THE CYCLONE
It is a safety requirement that schools are not reopened until the school site has been inspected and declared safe. After the cyclone, information will be provided on the radio as to whether our school will open at the usual time. This information will remain current for the whole day. For example, if the school is declared closed at 6:30am it will not open at all during that day, even if conditions improve. Every endeavour will be made to ensure schools are made safe and reopened as soon as possible.

Please keep yourselves informed via the radio, until a threat from the cyclone has passed.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE
The P&F will be holding a huge second hand uniform sale in front of the hall on Thursday 10 March following the Year Two Assembly.

ST CECILIA’S 2010 END OF YEAR CONCERT DVD
Please return to the office in an envelope marked: End of Year Concert
Student order: Name: __________________________ Year level: _____
Total Number orders __________ @ $5 EACH Total : $________

All monies & slips to be returned to the school office by;
Tuesday 01 March 2011
For the past two weeks the Pre-Primary have been learning all about bees!

We built our own bee hive for quiet reading in the book corner!

We learnt about all the different jobs Joice, Lanikai & Elias, Rohan & Elsie, Samara.

We learnt the meaning of new words like nectar, pollen, hive, honey.

We watched a documentary about how honey is farmed! We learnt how honey travels from the farm to the factory to our table!

We tasted two different types of honey (Yellow Box and Jarrah) and then voted on Ben’s Paper Bowl Bee and Caitlin’s Paper Bowl Bee.
We learnt that bees have many natural enemies including birds, toads,
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
THURSDAY 17TH MARCH

Following on from the success of this day last year, the P&F will once again have cupcakes will be for sale at morning recess to raise money for the P&F. Donations of cupcakes on the morning would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Emma Merlo on 0407 610 244 to advise how many cupcakes you are able to donate, as we don't want any children to miss out. More information will be provided in the next newsletter – stay tuned!!

PFFWA Annual Conference
25th and 26th March 2011

The annual conference for the Parents and Friends Federation of WA is being held in March. Any members of the P&F who may be in Perth on this weekend and would like to attend – please let Rhonda know. Also, some funding is available to send a couple of people down for it – please let Rhonda know if you are interested.

NB
Next P&F Meeting
Wednesday 23rd March, 7.00pm in the staff room.

BREAKING NEWS!!

The P&F has handed over a cheque for $50,000 to the school for the computer lab!!! Thanks to our massive efforts last year, we have helped the school to create this fantastic learning tool for all of the students to use.

The P&F has also given $500 to each class to enable teachers to purchase learning materials that they feel would be useful for their class this year.