FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope everyone has had a wonderful break and have returned to school with batteries fully charged. A big welcome to families new to the school. I hope you and your families have settled into school life. We have a busy year ahead with the emphasis on the Teaching/Learning process and self-improvement of all staff and students. To assist in this process we are implementing a School Improvement Plan based on enhancing teaching/learning strategies.

Education:
Effective feedback to students from teachers.
Students being responsible for their own learning by asking themselves five questions.
Introducing the Multilit Reading Program to assist those students who struggle with reading.
Introducing a Literacy Coach and support teacher to assist both teachers and students.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.
Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.
Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.
Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends.
Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!
Amen

COMING EVENTS:

Monday 13 February
Parent meet the Teacher night
5:30 pm Sausage sizzle
6:00 pm meet in the hall

Monday 20 February to Friday 03 March
Interm Swimming PP-Y6

Monday 20 February
PP-Yr2 Water Safety Talk
2:00-2:30 pm

Thursday 23 February
P & F Meeting
7pm Library
Community:
Trialling a new format for meet the Teacher night.
Involving families and the community in the school’s 75th anniversary celebrations and events.

Stewardship:
Enhance teacher/student feedback process.
Ensure staff are clear on individual and team roles and responsibilities.
Our objective is to promote an ethos of inclusivity, multi-culturalism and acceptance of all.

Catholic Identity:
We will be promoting the Gospel values as intrinsic to everyday life. This will be done through discussion of the Evangelisation Plan at staff meetings and information regarding the Plan to be placed in the school newsletter.

We have several new staff members at St Cecilia’s this year. I would like to welcome them and wish them all their best for the coming year. The new staff members are:
Year 2 - Miss Gemma Rozario
Teachers Assistants – Mrs Janya Zelencic
Mrs Anastsasiya Jankovic

Meet the Teacher Night
On Monday 13 February there will be a meet the Teacher night at school. The night is designed for parents to meet their teacher and see what the teacher has planned for the students and any housekeeping requirements the teacher may have. This is not a time for discussion about the progress of individual children. If you wish to discuss your child’s progress please book a time to meet with the teacher either before or after school. The times for the sessions are as follows:
We are trialling a new format for the night. We will begin with a sausage sizzle outside the hall commencing at 5.30pm.
There will be a meeting for parents in the hall at 6.00pm. This will last ten minutes then classrooms will be open until 7.00pm. Parents are free to walk into classrooms whenever they like between 6.10 and 7.00pm. Teachers will have handouts for parents.

School Uniform
Please ensure your children are wearing the correct school uniform. If you know they won’t be wearing the correct uniform please write a note for their class teacher alerting us to the problem. Any student who has the incorrect uniform on must have a note from home or they will be issued with a uniform infringement notice.
Please remember to check that fingernail polish has been removed. Students, both boys and girls, may only have one sleeper or stud in each ear.
Students are to wear their sports uniform only on the class PE day or when directed by their teacher. All other days the academic uniform is to be worn.
Thank you for your support.

Help your child make connections to literature
To help your child get the most out of books, focus on problem-solving, social skills and life experience. For instance, take your children to the beach (life experience). Teach them to ask an adult for help (problem-solving) or to hold the door for others (social skills). With an arsenal of these skills in place, they will be able to relate their own life experiences to those of book characters, improving their comprehension. If they don’t have these life experiences, and we ask them to make deeper connections to literature, it can be hard for them. Read to your children, let them hear you put expression and intonation in your voice. If you aren’t a confident reader have your children read to you.

Have a great week and may God bless you.

Yours in Faith, Family and Friendship

Peter Allen
Principal

PARISH NEWS

St Cecilia’s - Port Hedland
Tue to Fri Morning Mass 8.00am
Saturday Evening Mass 6.00pm
Sunday Morning Mass 8:30 am
Seafarers Centre - Port Hedland
Sunday Evening 3.30pm (All welcome)

St John the Baptist - South Hedland
Monday to Thursday 6.00pm
Friday Morning Mass 8.00am
Saturday Evening Mass 6:30pm
Sunday Morning Mass 9:30am
PARISH RAFFLE

The St Cecilia’s Parish Council is running a raffle to raise funds for the parish. For the cost of $2.00, you have the chance to win a $100 note! To enter, bring your $2.00 in to the front office, choose the two digit number that you think may be the last two digits of the serial number on the note and then cross your fingers. The raffle board will be located on Mrs Fernandes’ desk in the office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A warm welcome back to school to all our returning students and a further welcome to all our new families and staff.

Beginning of Year Mass
On Monday we celebrated the return to school with our Beginning of Year Mass. It was a wonderful way to begin our year together with prayer and some beautiful hymn singing. It was also wonderful to see some parents joining us to welcome the start of the new school year. Please remember that you are always welcome at any Mass we hold during the year.

Tomorrow afternoon the staff, along with members of the School Board and P&F, will be gathering to celebrate the beginning of the year with a Commissioning Mass. This Mass also welcomes staff new to Catholic Education in our school and in the Geraldton Diocese.

Our next whole school Mass will be on Wednesday 01 March at 1:00pm to celebrate the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday Mass.

Sacraments
This year there will be two Sacraments offered to students: First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation.
First Communion is offered to students in Year Four, and other students that haven’t received this Sacrament. To receive this Sacrament, students must have taken part in First Reconciliation. The First Holy Communion Mass will be on the weekend of 17 and 18 June, with a Mass in each of the parishes.
First Reconciliation is offered to students in Year Three and any other students that haven’t received this Sacrament. The Mass for First Reconciliation is held at the end of October at St Cecilia’s Church.

If you have students in these years then please check the posters that will be displayed in each foyer area and outside the office for more information.

The Sacrament of Confirmation takes place every two years to coincide with Bishop Justin’s visit to Port Hedland. As the Bishop visited last year, Confirmation will next be held in 2018.

Altar Server Training
Tomorrow, Father John will be meeting with a group of students to begin training them as Altar Servers. These children will be asked to serve at school Masses and will also have the opportunity to be an altar server at weekend Masses in our parish.

Thank you to those children for volunteering and to the parents for supporting this additional faith building activity.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Religious Education Coordinator

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

Carpark
When parking in the school carpark, please observe the reverse parking signs. This is to ensure the safety of our children as it can be difficult to see younger students if you are trying to reverse out of a carpark.
If you are dropping your children off at school in the morning, and you are not parking your car, the drop off must be done in the drive through and must be done at the two stopping bays; please don’t drive through if a car is already stopped at the stopping bay. Children should not be getting out of cars while they are stopped on or near the crossing, in the middle of the carpark or at the exit of the carpark. This causes safety issues for other pedestrians and drivers. Also, please ensure that your speed is a speed that allows you plenty of time to watch out for and if necessary stop for small children that may be walking in the carpark. There are 40km/hr signs around the school for during school times and 20km/hr signs on the gate as you enter the carpark, yet there are some drivers that are still driving well above this speed limit. As a result we have had some near misses between cars and pedestrians. Remember, higher speeds mean longer braking times and distances. Please observe the speed limits as displayed in and around the school to ensure the safety of our children.

A further reminder for when collecting students of an afternoon. Parents are asked to remain in their car and wait for their turn to get to the front of the line. Students are released two at a time to the two stopping bays where they will get into their cars. At no time are students to walk to a car that is further down the line and parents must not overtake cars in front, as this has resulted in some near misses between other cars and pedestrians. Again, parents are asked not to pull up in the middle of the carpark or near the crossing to pick up students.

Your patience and cooperation is always appreciated when student safety needs to be considered.
Library News
All students have now started borrowing during their Library lessons. Students in Years Five and Six are permitted to borrow two books at a time, students in Kindy to Year Four borrow one book. Children are encouraged to make their own selection and share their choice of book with you. If at any time you feel that the choice your child has made is unsuitable, please discuss this with your child and then if needed, you may contact me to discuss books also. (During Term One, and while they become familiar with the borrowing system, children in Kindy will have a ‘Magic’ Library bag. They will begin choosing their own books in Term Two.) At times throughout the year, children may be set reading challenges to broaden their reading horizons and so may bring home books they wouldn’t normally choose (e.g. older children may bring home picture books). Again, if you have any questions regarding these challenges, please don’t hesitate to contact me. All children have been reminded of how to care for their books with an emphasis placed on bringing a Library bag to school on their Library day to return and borrow their books.
Please note, that any damage caused to a book during the period of borrowing, or for any books lost, the cost to repair or replace the book will be the responsibility of the child.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Assistant Principal

Congratulations

Last year the school undertook a Learning/Teaching program developed by the CSIRO and supported by BHP. The program was designed to include Indigenous students and content into the Science Learning Area. We are very happy to announce that Mrs Claire Wellbeloved has been recognised for her exceptional work in the area of Indigenous STEM education in the upper Primary Years. Claire was selected for her dedication and determination to see the program succeed at St Cecilia’s. She has developed the program into a fun filled curriculum that saw the Years 5 & 6 students actively engaged in chemistry lessons.
Claire was chosen from a field of teachers across Australia and is a very deserved recipient of the award. Congratulations Mrs Wellbe, we are all so proud of you.
BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

**January**
- 2 WALKER, Kaydence Y4
- 2 KAHONDO, Michael
- 3 CASSON, Poppy PP
- 7 SHADE, Branden Y3
- 9 ATKINSON, Dylan K
- 11 MARASINGHA, Tharani Y5
- 12 BONE, Leah K
- 12 UIDULDAM, Hezekiah Y2
- 15 FERNANDES, Alejandro K
- 15 ESCALANTE, Arron Y5
- 16 KIRBY, Rohan Y6
- 17 MOALA, Olivia Y5
- 20 PRINDIVILLE, Siena Y3
- 21 LANCIANO, Zak Y6
- 22 McCRYSTAL, Keeley Y4
- 23 RUSSELL, Kailyn Y5
- 24 EDWARDS, Adien PP
- 29 FLORENCE, Casey Y3
- 30 BONE, Sarah Y1

**February**
- 1 OSBORNE, Will PP
- 1 FERNANDES, Reily Y1
- 3 LEONARD, Lilly PP
- 4 JERRY, Christina Y3
- 8 ESPERSEN-CAIRNS, Lotte K
- 8 FLINT, Bailey Y2
- 8 SCHMICH, Charlotte Y3
- 8 JOHNSON, Brianna Y6
- 10 HENAO, Santiago Y5
- 11 BOLAND, James Y2

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

A note from the Community Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year. My name is **Chrissie McDowell** and I am the Community Health Nurse who visits your school.

Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of my work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program.

Community Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. The services provided are free and confidential.

If you have a concern about your child’s health or development, please contact me on **08 91741307**
Meet the classes of 2017

The Kindy Class with Mrs McEnaney, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Zelencic

The Pre Primary Class with Miss Hartwell and Mrs Sibley

The Year One Class with Miss Ouschan

The Year Two Class with Miss Rozario and Ms Ramsay
P & F NEWS BULLETIN

P&F Meeting

In our first meeting of 2017, will be discussing the planning of the P&F activities and fundraisers for the entire year ahead, we would love everyone’s input for a fantastic 2017!

We will also be looking at the activities to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of Saint Cecilia’s.

Everyone is welcome!

Date: Thursday 23rd February 2017

Time: 7pm

Where: School Library

The position of Secretary remains open and we would like to extend an invitation for anyone to jump on board, including anyone looking for a position of General Committee Member.

St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School P&F
stcecilia_pandf@outlook.com

Find us on Facebook “St Cecilia’s P & F Parent Helpers”
Fresh WA seasonal produce straight from the grower to you!
Delivered straight to your door in a refrigerated vehicle!
Hand packed by FRESCO North West – Up to 30kgs of produce!
No lock in orders – Direct Deposit upon ordering
https://www.facebook.com/groups/263533997356974/
Or Facebook Search FRESCO PRODUCE North West
Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to the start of the 2017 school year. This year promises to be full of exciting new opportunities and possibilities for your child in Catholic Education.

If you are new to our system, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family. I am delighted that you have chosen to join the Catholic Education Western Australia system, which provides a faith-based education and inspires a passion for learning and discovery for more than 75,000 students in 163 school communities right across the State.

You are joining Catholic Education at an exciting time of system success, growth and transformation.

In 2016, one of the many encouraging indicators of the success of our system was the WACE achievement of our Year 12s. Approximately 95 percent of CEWA students achieved a WACE, above the total State average, while CEWA students improved their Median ATAR again to 81.95, and were awarded a total of 3,178 VET Certificate 2 or higher.

In the past four years, our system has grown with the opening of seven new schools and colleges. Early Years Learning and Care is a key focus for us moving forward in 2017 as we seek to offer exceptional learning experiences for children in a vital period of their development, while meeting the needs of today’s families.

This year we aim to reimagine collaborative learning at every school across our system by implementing our digital transformation initiative, LEADing Lights. LEADing Lights is a single digital eco-system, designed to equip students with the 21st century technologies and deep learning skills that will best prepare them for the future. Much work is underway in this space to ensure that this initiative supports world-class learning and development experiences for both students and staff.

Catholic schools rely on the contribution of parish, staff, students and parents working in partnership to sustain their vibrancy, educational excellence, and faith life. With your support and involvement in your child’s learning, the efforts of our dedicated staff and Principals, we will ensure that our Catholic schools help your child reach toward their God-given potential.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all the best for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Dr Tim McDonald
Executive Director, Catholic Education Western Australia