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Homework Information Night
We have had nearly 40 notes returned for the homework information night. It will be held on Thursday 12 March in Week 6, commencing at 6.30pm. The evening is designed to answer parent questions about their children’s homework and how they can best support their children.

Meet the Teacher Night
I would like to congratulate the teachers for the amazing job they did last Tuesday evening at the ‘Meet the Teacher night’. It is hard to stand in front of a group of people and discuss what your children will be doing in the year ahead. Teachers must consider all the students in their class and this can lead to 3 – 4 different ability levels in the one class. Explaining this, in a group situation can be difficult as there is a confidentiality component that teachers must abide by. Thank you to all those parents who turned up. It was nice to see so many parents here. Please remember to make your teacher the first ‘Port of Call’ if you have any questions or need to discuss an incident.

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A Prayer for Positivity
Holy Spirit
Banish our spirit of criticism; Replace it with a spirit of affirmation.
Help us to see the glass that is half full; The essay that is half written;
The answer that is halfway correct.
Help us to see the people with their hands up for help … Not just the few who are shouting out!
Banish our spirit of self-resignation; Replace it with a spirit of determination.
Help us to be bold and tenacious; To believe in ourselves;
To believe in our colleagues; To believe in our God;
To believe that all things are possible.
Banish our spirit of procrastination; Replace it with a spirit of energy and action.
Help us to get ourselves organised, So we can do the things we said we would do.
Give us a sense of purpose and direction; Even when the going gets tough! Amen

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
Week Four is just about over and everyone has settled into school well. I would like parents to go over the FAITH, FAMILY, FRIENDSHIP ethos of the school. The ethos relates to how we treat each other and why we treat each other this way. It also encompasses forgiveness and empathy.

I would also ask parents to discuss goal setting and how to achieve goals. Please let the children know that achieving an ambition takes hard work and failures, and that the failures are a natural part of life that help us grow as people.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Commissioning of Staff Mass
At our Commissioning Mass on 13th February, six staff members were commissioned by Fr John to serve in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Geraldton, where our primary task is evangelisation.

Reconciliation
Next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday The Year Four, Five and Six Classes will take turns to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance as part of our Lenten preparation for Easter.

Project Compassion Boxes
Last Wednesday all families were sent home a Project Compassion Box and a letter explaining our Lenten fundraising. There are some spare boxes in the office if you wish to take an extra one. We will encourage students to contribute to these boxes regularly by donating coins during the Lenten period.

Boxes can be handed into the office at the beginning of Term Two.

Chick-a-thon
The start of Lent also signals the return of our Chick-a-Thon. For every $10 that classes, and families raise for the Caritas Australia ‘Project Compassion’ Lent fundraiser, a chicken will be provided for a Zimbabwean community. Our Year Six Religion leaders will run the program and will reveal how many chickens each class has raised each week.

God Bless You
Mrs Rosie Vrancic
Religious Education Coordinator

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

Library News
Thank you to those who have volunteered to cover the many, many new books we have in the library. I will be spending the next week accessioning new books and should have some ready to send home late next week. If you are able to help, I am still seeking more volunteers and am very appreciative of any help to get new books on the shelf for all students to borrow.

Meetings with teachers
There have been some times when teachers have been late to class or duties because they have been caught up by parents ducking into class for a quick chat right before or after school. We value all communication with parents but do ask that you please arrange a time for a meeting so that teachers are free for all teaching and supervision duties that they need to perform. Please check with your child’s teacher to find out when they are available.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Assistant Principal

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES
St Cecilia’s - Port Hedland
Tue to Fri Morning Mass 8.00am
Saturday Evening Mass 6.00pm
Sunday Morning Mass 8:30 am

St John the Baptist - South Hedland
Monday and Wednesday 6.00pm
Tue, Thu & Fri Morning Mass 8.00am
Saturday Evening Mass 6:30pm
Sunday Morning Mass 9:30am

Seafarers Centre - Port Hedland
Sunday Evening 3.30pm (All welcome)

CONDOLANCES
We remember in our prayers Mr Ronnie Morris who died recently on 9 February 2015 in South Hedland. His wife Mrs Daphne Morris, his two daughters Louise and Jenny attended St Cecilia’s School.
A memorial service was held at St Cecilia’s Church on Saturday 21 February.

Peter Allen
Principal
DONATIONS PLEASE
We would appreciate any donations of the following items:
- Used stamps
- Aluminium can ring pulls
- Ice-cream containers and lids
- Small shoe boxes
These can be brought in to the front office.
Mrs Rozario
School Secretary

BATTERY RECYCLING
The types of batteries for recycling include the following:
Primary (Single use) – batteries typically found in toys, watches/clocks, smoke alarms, audio-visual equipment and remote controls ie. AAA, AA, C, D etc...
Secondary (Rechargeable) – commonly found in cord-less drills, mobile phones, laptops, PC’s, shavers and cameras.
*Please note we are not collecting car batteries.*
The battery recycling box is in the front office.

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

**February**
17 DALY, Jack K
18 THOMPSON, Scarlett Y1
20 WHITEHEAD, Emmaline Y2
20 DENNEY, Josh Y4
20 DENNEY, Kade Y6
21 MERLO, Thomas Y1
24 RETALLACK, Benjamin Y4
26 HARVEY, Paris Y4

**MERIT AWARDS**

05 February 2015
Y2: Ezekiel Uidulam
Y3: Liam Willalang-Limbi
Y4: Damien Chikwaka
  Paris Harvey
Y5: Beau Wuruki
Y6: William Harvey

12 February 2015
Y1: Charlie Drysdale
  Scarlett Thompson
Y2: Samuel Pereira
  Tanya Zonke
Y3: Nat Cornelius
  Rochelle Crawford
Y4: Joice Damian
  Jye Tomerini
Y5: Tucker Bailey
  Emma Veldsman
Y6: Toria Cananzi
  Chanelle Derschow

COMMUNITY MEAL DONATIONS
I, _______________________________, would like to donate ____ meals for the community.
Please return this slip to the front office and meal containers will be sent home with your child.
Students name: __________________________________________ Year:____________

UNIFORM SHOP
Open during school terms each Thursday after assembly
approximately 9.00am to 9.30am
Please place orders early preferably by Wednesday afternoon.

COMMUNITY NEWS

PORT HEDLAND TENNIS CLUB
Tennis will resume for 2015 on Sunday 01 March.
Lessons will be held on: Fridays 5.00pm to 6.30pm and
Sundays 5.00pm to 6.30pm.
$15 per lesson for non members and $10 per lesson for members.
Sausage sizzle included every Sunday after lesson.
Parents must stay at the tennis courts for the whole lesson time.

PORT HEDLAND DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE
We are open at Port Hedland on Tuesdays and Wednesdays this year, South Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.
Port Hedland Dental Therapy Centre
c/o Port Hedland Primary School
Corney Street Port Hedland  WA 6721
Phone: 9173 2529

PORT HEDLAND OUT OF SCHOOL CARE
Would you like your child to be a confident and involved learner?
Would your child like to participate in weekly Active After School Sports??
Would you like them to learn life skills such as cooking, cleaning their environment and caring for our natural environment?
Would you like your child to be engaged in our new vegie patch project, worm farm composting and recycling program?
Would your child like to be included into an exciting, fun and welcoming environment and curriculum?
Please contact Danielle at Port Hedland OSHC on 0428 340 040 or porthedlindosc@cssu.org.au
We are currently taking enrolments for After School Care and Vacation Care 2014/2015
DANIELLE BAKER
DIRECTOR
Port Hedland Out of School Care
Port Hedland Primary School Corney St.
PO Box 493| Port Hedland| WA 6721
Mb: 0428 340 040
Fax:0891731980
Web: www.cssu.org.au

DYSLEXIA AND IRLEN CLINIC
Does someone you love have:
Difficulties Reading?  Problems with spelling?
Worries with writing?
Find out exactly where learning has stalled and what can be done to help. Dyslexia and Irlen Clinic will be in your area in March 2015. Phone 1300 732 998 or email beatrice@worldwidelearningacademy.com for appointments. Visit worldwidelearningacademy.com for self-assessment and download the free eBook – “Read, Spell, Write, Right?”

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Please place orders early preferably by Wednesday afternoon.

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Please return this slip to the front office and meal containers will be sent home with your child.
Students name: __________________________________________ Year:____________
LENT: WHAT IS IT REALLY ABOUT AND HOW CAN MY FAMILY PARTICIPATE IN THIS SEASON?

LENT
Since the first week of January, the presence of colourful eggs and chocolate bunnies in supermarkets has steadily been increasing. People like to buy them early in preparation for their Easter celebrations. However, for us as Catholics, our preparation for Easter goes much deeper than that.

The Season of Lent is a time in which we reflect on our relationship with God and the way we are living our lives. It is the season in which we prepare for the mystery of Easter with minds and hearts renewed. Through repentance and renewal we can live more fully, our Baptismal call to live as disciples of Jesus.

The following information may help you and your family understand the meaning, customs and traditions of Lent more fully, resulting in a deeper preparation for the coming Easter Season.

Pancake Tuesday/ - Shrove Tuesday
Shrove Tuesday is not part of the Season of Lent. The word ‘Shrove’ comes from the word ‘Shrive’ which means to confess. People were encouraged to say sorry to God before the beginning of Lent itself.

Shrove Tuesday originated during the Middle ages. Food items like meats, fats, eggs, and milk were regarded as restricted during Lent. To keep such food from being wasted, many families would have big feasts on Shrove Tuesday in order to consume those items that would inevitably become spoiled during the next forty days.

Making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday came about as a way to use as much milk, fats, and eggs as possible before Ash Wednesday - the beginning of Lent. Hence the term ‘Pancake Tuesday.’

DID YOU KNOW?
The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes before the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday.

Lent is a forty-day liturgical season that prepares us for the most sacred part of the Christian year, the Triduum – the days we recall the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ.

Sundays are not included in the forty-day count because every Sunday is a joyful celebration of our Lord’s Resurrection.

The name Lent, comes from the Old English word for Spring which was lencten. The Latin word for Lent is quadragesima which means forty days.

During Lent we renew our hearts and mind through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in preparation for the joyful mystery of Easter.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. This means we only have one main meal during the day (fasting) and we do not eat meat (abstinence). Abstinence applies to people from the age of 14. Fasting applies to those who have attained their majority, until their 60th year.

The traditional colour of Lent is purple.

PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING: WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Lent is a time to identify the things we THINK, FEEL and DO, that prevent us from moving closer to God and which stop us from living like Jesus.

Lent is about conversion – moving into practices in which we grow more like Christ and help us live His way of life.

As Catholics, we use PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING to bring us closer to God and prepare ourselves for the Easter Season. All three of these Lenten practices link together to allow the Holy Spirit to bring about the conversion we seek during Lent.

PRAYER - Prayer is our communication with God. It is through prayer that we develop a closer, more intimate relationship with God. During Lent, we try and pray more by talking to God, as well as by being silent with God, so that we may hear God speak to us.

FASTING - Fasting is one of the most ancient actions linked to Lent, although the rules have changed through the ages, it is still considered a sacred practice. When we hear the word ‘fast’ we straight away think of ‘giving up’ something like lollicies, chocolate or our favourite food. Fasting is about limiting the amount we eat and/or denying ourselves certain foods. It is primarily a spiritual discipline designed to allow us to concentrate less on our body and more on prayer.

It is important to remember, fasting should lead to a deeper relationship with God and others. Fasting is not a selfish act, rather an act that allows us to focus less on ourselves and more on strengthening our relationship with God and others.

ALMSGIVING - Almsgiving is a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for all God has given to us. Works of charity and the promotion of justice are integral elements of the Christian way of life. When we look carefully, we will find Christ in our neighbours, especially the poor and needy. One way we usually support those in need during Lent is by giving money to the annual Project Compassion Appeal.

ASH WEDNESDAY... DID YOU KNOW
Ash Wednesday is the start of the 40 days of Lent.

The 40 days represent the time Jesus went into the desert to prepare for His mission.

During Ash Wednesday masses and liturgies, a small cross is placed on our foreheads using the ashes.

The ashes used, come from burning the Palms used in Palm Sunday celebrations from the previous year. The ashes are a symbol of repentance and a desire for renewal.

This is why the priest may say, ‘Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel’ as he places the ashes on our forehead.

You might like to view this simple two minute video about Ash Wednesday with your child.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3L3c23MfC0

Looking at Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving:
How is it relevant to me?

Lent is an annual opportunity to grow in our faith, which means it’s about much more than giving up unhealthy foods or treats, as we may have done when we were children.

It is about abstaining from whatever is unhealthy in our lives — gossip, laziness and lack of social conscience and most importantly, taking concrete steps to do something that has a positive influence on yourself and others.
Instead of chocolate, alcohol or ice-cream, what if we thought of fasting, prayer and almsgiving in a broader context?

What if those disciplines involved practices like: reducing our dependence on electronic devices, such as iPads, iPods, TV, Playbox, etc., for twenty four hours (fast); contemplating the 1.6 billion people in the world who have no access to electricity for a few moments (pray); spending the extra time we saved not using the electronic devices, on personal interaction with someone we love (give).

Or what if we:
reduced our carbon footprint for a day by using less energy – being more aware of the electricity we waste through lights or TVs being left on (fast)

then reflected for two minutes on the magnificent gift of our natural environment – God’s creation (pray)
and finally donate some money to be given away to a favourite charity—perhaps one that plants trees (give).

The Lenten practices of Praying, Fasting and Almsgiving have been a part of our Catholic tradition for centuries and they are still very relevant in our faith journey today.

**Lent: A Time For Repenting**

One of the major Lenten themes is **Repentance**. When Jesus asks us to repent, he is not simply asking us to do something religious, rather he is asking us to **dare to see differently**, to look at God, the world and ourselves through a different lens.

The time to repent is the time to **let go of ONE way of viewing things**, in order to embrace the risk of **seeing and thinking differently**. This in turn will allow us to **LIVE differently**.

The word repentance literally means, **change of thinking**. This Lent, before you make a judgement or comment about something or someone, look again through Christ’s lens and see how differently you see things.


**VISIT THE CHURCH** – Get up 10 minutes earlier and drive your child/children to school. Once you are there, pay a visit to the church and pray, alone and/or together, with your child/children. Children learn from your actions and attitudes - show them the importance of making more time for prayer in our lives.

**WEEKDAY MASS** – Promise yourself to go to at least one morning Mass during Lent - time for just you and God. Celebrating and receiving the Eucharist is a great way to strengthen your relationship with God... and a great way to start the day!

**PRAYING AT WORK OR HOME DURING YOUR DAY** – Take a three minute prayer break! Yes, just three minutes to reflect on God’s presence in your life. Try it! What have you got to lose? (Best to try it in your lunch break if you’re at work or you might lose your job) [http://http://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer.htm](http://http://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer.htm)

**LENTEN CRAFT** – To make Lent more meaningful for your child, provide opportunities for them to participate in Lenten craft activities. Ideas: [http://thetuckerbunch.typepad.com/just_another_day_in_parad/2007/02/celebrating_len.html](http://thetuckerbunch.typepad.com/just_another_day_in_parad/2007/02/celebrating_len.html)

**LENT GRATITUDE** – Choose a time each day where each family member shares three things for which to be grateful. This could be done at meal-times or before bed. You may even like to write them down in a Family Gratitude Journal. Giving thanks is our response to the goodness of God.

**PRAY TOGETHER** – Make family prayer a focus during Lent. Read the Sunday Gospel for each week of Lent from a children’s bible, say traditional prayers at bed time, pray in the car together on the way to school, chat to God in an informal way about the things for which you want to ask or give thanks.

**GOOD DEAD BEADS** – Make some good deed beads with your child/children. Make a promise to do 10 good deeds each day. Share the good deeds together as a family over dinner each night. [http://thelittleways.com/how-to-make-sacrifice-beads](http://thelittleways.com/how-to-make-sacrifice-beads)

**THINKING OF YOU CARDS** – Make 'Thinking of You' cards and send them to people you love or people you know who might need a little extra love and care during Lent.
YEAR 2

Bear & Chook
by the Sea
Visit from the Literacy Centre
On Monday 16 February the Literacy Centre in Perth came to visit St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School to share and discover the beautiful book “Bear and Chook by the Sea” by Lisa Shanahan and illustrations by Emma Quay.

Firstly, the Year 2 class had the opportunity to explore this beautiful book as well as the development of the accompanying illustrations, which added a wonderful depth to this already amazing adventure.

After looking at the pictures we read the story as a group and realised how much the images helped the story to come alive. We enjoyed sitting in a circle surrounded by the original illustrations as it made us feel as though we were sitting on the beach.

Lastly, we acted out all the parts of the book and Bec from the Literacy Centre, who was our presenter, said that the Year 2 class were incredible actors!

We thoroughly enjoyed this visit and hope that the Literacy Centre will us visit again soon.
ABSENTEEISM
Please note St Cecilia’s new procedure for recording students absences. Teachers will advise the office by 9.00am each morning of any absent students. Any unexplained absences will be followed up by an SMS message sent to the Mothers Mobile. Parents are asked to call the school office prior to 9.00am each day of their child’s absence to avoid an SMS message being sent to the mothers mobile. All absences are to be followed up by a written note of explanation. All absences need to be notified by a parent or guardian (not a sibling, neighbour etc). Parents are to follow up all absences with a written explanation note as soon as possible to class teachers. At our recent audit, it was determined that we are failing in meeting the Department of Education’s specific guidelines for Absent Notes whether they are handwritten, typed or on email. The absence notes must contain all of the following information:
- name of student
- year level of student
- date of absence
- explanation (reason) for absence
- parent/guardian’s full name and signature (full name only on emails)
- date note was written
Thank you for your cooperation.

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL
PORT HEDLAND
MOVIE FUNDRAISER
for junior players travelling overseas in April.
PAPER PLANES
This Saturday at the Matt Dann
collect your paper plane kits from 6.30pm
LUCKY DOOR PRIZES
Movie starts 7.30pm
KIDS $19 ADULTS $25

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF BMX RACING FOR FREE
YOUR LOCAL CLUB IS
HEDLAND BMX
TRACK LOCATION
Darlot St, Port Hedland
DATE TO COME & TRY
14TH MAR 2015, 3.30-4.00 PM
WHAT TO BRING
Long sleeve shirt, long pants, shoes, face-fitted helmet, gloves & bike. Club has some equipment available to use.
CONTACT
Helen 0478669772

ARE YOU READY?

Library Book Coverers
Childs Name: ____________________________ Class: ____________________________
I can assist the library by covering some books. Please send home some books and contact.
Parent Name: ____________________________ Contact Number: ____________________________