I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true.
I am not bound to succeed,
but I am bound to live up to the light I have.
Abraham Lincoln

SUCCESS
Forget about all the reasons why something may not work. You only need to find one good reason why it will.
Dr Robert Anthony

For success, attitude is equally as important as ability.
Harry F. Banks

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
Dear Parents and Guardians,
The ability to think and reflect on all our experiences and ideas is a remarkable gift and gives us the possibility of making sense of our past and looking forward to our future. The ability to reason and explore options with our minds is important to our spiritual journey and to our spiritual growth. It helps us to understand the words of Jesus and to offer ourselves to God in prayer. So when we think of imagination as a spiritual gift, it has to do with using our inward focus to pay more attention to God. By this we can learn more about how God is calling us and we can test this by sharing our thoughts and ideas with others.

Lent is an ideal time to stop and think about our family and how we wish to shape our lives. As a family how are we preparing for Easter and are we following God’s plan for us? Is prayer a focus in our family life? How are we building the future? Take the time to reflect as a family and set aside God time each day.

COMING EVENTS
MONDAY 12 MARCH
P&F Wine & Cheese Night
7pm in the Library

WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH
Offertory Practice in the church 6.00pm

THURSDAY 15 MARCH
Year Two Assembly Item
SPAR 2.00pm

FRIDAY 16 MARCH
Busy Bee 4.30pm to 6.30pm

MONDAY 19 MARCH
NO SCHOOL STAFF PD

TUESDAY 20 MARCH
1.30pm Sacramental
Team Meeting

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH
6.00pm Commissioning Mass
for Board, P&F & Staff

THURSDAY 22 MARCH
Harmony Day
7pm St Cecilia’s Parish AGM
Year Seven Assembly Item
SPAR 2.00pm

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.
Assembly
Last week saw our talented Year Four class take to the stage and lead us with rhyme and beat. Ms Tait and her fantastic Year Four class wowed us with their rendition of the Three Bears. It was a fast moving nursery rhyme which had a lot of entertaining characters. I love to see our students showing such confidence and performing such wonderful acts on our stage. Congratulations on a great performance.

Pupil Free Day
Last Friday our teachers travelled to Karratha for some Professional Development on ICT and the Australian Curriculum. I know we were all very busy being immersed in the Australian Curriculum and while it was a busy day we all gained valuable information. All non-teaching staff remained in Port Hedland and had the opportunity to be involved with Professional Development which also provided them with great information. So thank you to our wonderful community for taking care of our students while our staff gained some very meaningful Professional Development.

Congratulations to Jack Bowin
I am always delighted to hear about our students and the wonderful things they are doing in the community. We have so many bright and athletic students who represent their town, State and Country. Jack Bowins is an amazing athlete who can compete in any sporting field and always achieves outstanding results. Jack has been involved in Baseball in Port Hedland and is a natural in this sport coming up through the ranks of tee-ball. Jack was chosen along with three other Pilbara boys to join the 36 Western Australian contingent to tour Dubai and Hong Kong in March 2012. The team is made up of boys aged 10 to 12. Jack is one of the youngest players but his ability was picked up by the scouts who have been watching the baseball league throughout Western Australia during 2011. Jack will become part of the Perth Stingrays team coached by Craig Lewing- ton during the tour and I know he will represent our State well. Jack is a quiet young man but a committed sportsman. We wish you all the best on this great achievement. Jack will be playing in the Dubai invitational baseball Tournament and Hong Kong Tournament against local and other international teams for 16 days and nights. We look forward to hearing all about the tournament on Jack’s return.

Swimming Carnival
The lead up to the swimming carnival is a very busy time and I would like to thank in particular Mrs Lyn Poharama for her dedication to the task of planning and organising the swimming carnival for 2012. Lyn has been busy in the lead up to the carnival in training our students as well as planning for the day. I know that Lyn has called on many of our staff and parents to aid her throughout the day and I would like to thank you all for your assistance and support. I was so sad to miss the carnival as they are such great days which show just how wonderful our school spirit is.

Congratulations to all our students as I know you had a wonderful day and showed great sportsmanship. After listening to many of the staff and parents comments I could see that our carnival yesterday was exceptional. Our students participated most beautifully on the day showing great sportsmanship.

Congratulations to every one of you! Mrs Poharama you really did organise a fantastic day so thank you very much; we really appreciate your dedication to the task at hand. The carnival ran so smoothly on the day. Of course there can only be one winner, so congratulations to Canty with 1535 points. In second place came Costello with 1420 points and in third position was Mathews with 895 points.

(photo of Lyn and each faction)
We are always sad when we need to farewell staff. Over the years we have been so fortunate to have so many wonderful, committed staff who join our school community and work with us in making our school so great. At the end of the term we will be saying farewell to two of our staff members.

Firstly Mrs Melinda McLeod, has been on maternity leave since Term Two 2011 and who will be remaining at home with her daughter Layla. Melinda joined us in Term Four 2009 and was with us until Term Two, 2011. Melinda is a dedicated and conscientious teacher who constantly planned amazing lessons for her students. We wish her all the best in her motherhood career.

We have been blessed to also have Mrs Emily Hopkins with us. Emily joined us in 2010 and began as our Year Six teacher; she has proven to be a great teacher and an accomplished pianist. Emily has been involved in all our choir and musicals as well as providing great guidance to our leaders. Emily moved up with her Year Six class to begin Year Seven this year and I know that she has developed a great relationship with her students. Emily will be leaving us to begin maternity leave and we wish her all the best.

At the beginning of 2012, we welcomed Miss Kathy Dowdeswell into our school to lead our Year Two class. Kathy was covering Melinda’s maternity leave for Term One. I am delighted to let our community know that Kathy has agreed to stay on until the end of the year in Year Two. I know that the students and parents will be delighted by her decision. Kathy has really formed a great relationship with her class and parents and I know the year holds so much more for us all.

Busy Bee
On Friday, 16 March we are holding our Busy Bee. We are hoping that lots of our wonderful families will be able to join us and assist in cleaning up the area from the school to the Church. As we have entered Lent it is a great time to prepare ourselves for Easter in the School and Parish. We are hoping that many families will come and join us from 4.30pm until 6.30pm with gloves, pruners and mowers. We are also looking for people to clean the church windows and generally help make our Church sparkle. If you are able to help out please let Hilary know at the front desk as we would like to finish with a Sausage Sizzle and a drink and need to know numbers. We look forward to seeing you there.

National Testing of Literacy and Numeracy
From 15 May, as part of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), national tests will be held in literacy and numeracy for all students in Australia at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The national tests assess student achievement in literacy and numeracy in much the same way as they have been done in the past. Students will be familiar with the test formats and the type of questions they have to answer. The main difference is that all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 at schools across Australia complete the same tests on the same days.

Students will have their skills assessed in numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

National tests will provide information on how students are progressing, and support improvements in teaching and learning. These tests will make it easier to monitor student performance in literacy and numeracy across the nation. Over 1 million students from 9,000 schools across Australia participate in the national tests.

This information will be used to evaluate what students can do and how they perform against the national benchmarks. You can help your child by talking about these tests as a means of showing what they know and can do at this point in their schooling. Ease any anxiety by explaining that everyone in Australia will be doing this test at the same time and the testing process is an integral part of their school life.

Later in the year individual students will be given reports which will indicate their level of achievement in reading, writing, spelling, punctuation, grammar and numeracy. Today you will receive a hand out explaining the NAPLAN testing if your child is in Year Three, Five or Seven.

Sport’s Program
At St Cecilia’s we value the promotion of an active lifestyle. All students are encouraged to participate in activities that get the heart racing as well as getting the body moving. Recent research has outlined that children are becoming less likely to be active, and together with an inappropriate diet, this can lead to weight issues, as well as a decrease in self-esteem and confidence. As teachers, we are aware of the importance of promoting both a healthy diet as well as an active lifestyle within our curriculum.

Our Physical Education program run by Mrs Lyn Painama encourages students to participate in active sessions, working at their own level. Students are taught skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and are then provided with opportunities to practice and consolidate. Skill sessions are balanced with games that promote the fun of being involved, as well as giving students a chance to put their new skills into practice.

As students get older, the skills are linked to major games such as netball and tee ball. Students then have the opportunity to participate in sport sessions where aspects such as team play and good sporting behaviour are promoted and enhanced.

At St Cecilia’s we value the fact that all students are different. Not all of us will become elite sportspeople and be able to demonstrate flawless skills. Our curriculum focuses upon the ‘having a go’ nature of active living, as well as setting your own personal goals to achieve.

As parents, it is important that you encourage your child to always participate in school events. By support-
ing their efforts and celebrating their own personal improvements or goals, you are assisting them to seek out an active lifestyle where they can succeed at their own level. Yesterday when we saw our students participating in the swimming carnival we are reminded how important it is to participate and enjoy the day. Showing good sportsmanship is equally important and I am always proud of the way our students relate to one another.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Patrick’s Day
On Friday 16 March, we will celebrate St Patrick’s Day. Children can wear their sports uniform with their green sports shirt. Girls can wear a green ribbon in their hair. Bring along 50 cents to buy a green cupcake at recess.

May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow,
And may trouble avoid you wherever you go. ~Irish Blessing

Project Compassion & Chick-a-Thon
Our chick-a-thon is well underway! Thank you to our generous families for your donations to our class Project Compassion boxes. As of writing this, our chick-o-meter is as follows:

Kindy: 2 chickens
PP: 3 chickens
Year One: 11 chickens
Year Two: 3 chickens
Year Three: 3 chickens
Year Four: 3 chickens
Year Five: 5 chickens
Year Six: 9 chickens
Year Seven: 3 chickens

A very special thank you to our Year Seven Religious leaders Sara McDonald, Ruby Esmonde and Tamara Van Den Hurk who have shown exceptional leadership in guiding the school in our chick-a-thon. They have put up a chick-o-meter in the Under Cover Area that shows how each class is going with their fundraiser. Take a look sometime!

SPAR – Stop Pray and Reflect
You are invited to join our parents and friends SPAR group. What is a SPAR? Our parents and friends SPAR group is your opportunity to:

Stop
Pray
And
Reflect
This short prayer and reflection runs on Thursday afternoons after 2 pm in the hall. We hope to see you there!

Friday Morning Mass
For those who would like to attend Mass more frequently during Lent, Fr John will lead a short Friday Morning Mass at 7:15 am at St Cecilia’s Catholic Church. You are all most welcome. Mass is anticipated to finish about 7:45 am.

Harmony Day
A letter went home this week to Year One–Seven families about our upcoming Harmony Day celebrations. We are relying on parent assistance to make the afternoon special and fun for the students. If you are available, please be sure to complete the helper slip and return to school by Friday 16 March.

The Harmony Day theme “Sport – play, engage, inspire”, recognises the important role and positive influence that games have in our multicultural nation. We will celebrate Harmony Day on Thursday 22 March starting with a morning assembly in the hall led by our Year Seven class. In the afternoon the children will be placed in various mixed year level groups and rotate through three different activities from some of the many cultural backgrounds we have at St Cecilia’s.

Date: Thursday 22 March, 2012
Time: 1 pm – 2:20 pm (3 activity rotations)
Classes: Year One to Year Seven (Kindy and Pre-Primary will have a separate programme)
What to Wear: School Sports Uniform (Faction coloured shirts), sneakers, school hat, sunscreen

Mrs Grace Joukhadar
Assistant Principal Religious Education

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES
St Cecilia’s - Port Hedland
Tue & Thu Morning Mass 8.00 am
Fri Morning Mass 7.15 am
Saturday Evening Mass 6.00 pm
Sunday Morning Mass 8.30 am
St John the Baptist - South Hedland
Wed Night Mass 6.00 pm
Saturday Evening Mass 7.15 pm
Sunday Morning Mass 10.00 am
Seafarers Centre - Port Hedland
Sunday Evening 5.00 pm (All welcome)

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

LIBRARY BOOKS
It is wonderful to see so many students enjoying our new books, particularly our senior students. We have worked hard to select books that we think will interest you, and it is fantastic to see them running off the shelves.

While reading may not be everyone’s favourite pastime, it is a fabulous way to escape your troubles for a few minutes (or hours!) into another world, another person or even another realm! All students from Pre Primary to Year 7 are expected to borrow every WEEK.

To borrow a library book, students MUST have a library bag.

ALL BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY EACH WEEK. Please do not keep books at home beyond their return date. If students are wishing to reloan a book because they have not had time to read it or have not yet finished it, this is possible; students simply fill out a slip (available in their classrooms) and tape it to the front of their book. The class sends the books to the Library in the morning and when students come to the Library for their lesson, the reissued book will be waiting for them.

School Uniforms
Please make sure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school each day. An easy way to do this is to check with the class teacher if you are unsure. Staff are checking uniforms each day to make sure students are in the correct uniform and wearing it correctly as well. Students in the incorrect uniform or not
wearing the uniform correctly, will be issued with a uniform note. Please sign the note and return it to the classroom teacher. Parents and students are aware of the uniform when the student is enrolled. Repeated deliberate incorrect wearing of the uniform will lead to parents being informed by phone and asked to bring the correct uniform to school so the student can get changed. Faction shirts are worn in Terms 1 & 2 as part of the Sport Uniform.

Year 3 and Year 6 Dental Health Screening
Dental Health Professionals will be visiting St Cecilia’s on Tuesday 3 April at 9:30am to check the dental health of our current Year 3 and Year 6 students.

Pupil Free Day
Just a reminder that the school will be closed on Monday 19 March for Staff Professional Development.

Anaphylaxis / Epilepsy Training
On Tuesday afternoon after school our dedicated and caring staff updated their anaphylaxis training and also received training in the management of epilepsy. As always the safety and welfare of our students is paramount and it is important to keep our qualifications up to date. Thank you to Mrs Chrissie McDowell who led the staff through the training.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal

MERIT AWARDS

23 February 2012
PP: Zaina Doyle Logan Connolly
Yr 1: Phoebe Perkins Eoin Vickery
Yr 2: Emma Veldspan Joseph Sang
Yr 3: Riley Smith
Yr 4: Elijah Dhu Jed Marsden
Pascal Zoghbi
Yr 5: Zoe Britcliffe Bayley Waren
Yr 6: Sebastian Dalitz Tess Melberg
Yr 7: Celeste McCorry Tennika Quick
Dane Shipway

01 March 2012
PP: Kaitlyn Russell
Yr 1: Jack Riches Mason Smith
Yr 2: Cullen Connolly Benjamin Sang
Yr 3: Jasmin Logghe Ben Merlo
Yr 4: Zoie Dalitz Phoebe-Cate Mouat
Ida Van Rysinge
Yr 5: Caeley Cecich Thomas McDonald
Yr 6: Elyse Phillips Tayla Selfe
Yr 7: Bryaden Jessop Kieran Murphy

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who will celebrate their birthday.

March
12 ELLIOTT, Alyssa Y5
12 ELLIOTT, Cooper Y5
14 JONCKHEERE, Alexander Y2
14 SANG, Benjamin Y2
14 SANG, Joseph Y2
14 GREEN, Hannah Y6
15 CECICH, Caeley Y5
16 LEOPARDI, Isabella Y2
18 PEAGAM, Joshua Y5
20 TUCKER, Rani Y5
22 QUICK, Tennika Y7
23 HINCH, Ella Y6
23 HINCH, Georgia Y6
24 GARBIN, Mikayla Y7

COMMUNITY NEWS

IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
Academic
Sister Alacoque Gittins Academic Scholarship - a minimum of two scholarships will be awarded to incoming Year 7 students
Sister John Jones Academic Scholarship – a minimum of one scholarship offered for a student entering Year 10
Sister Joan Evans Boarding Scholarship – a minimum of one scholarship offered for a student entering Year 7
Ionian Past Pupils Association (IPPA) Scholarship - a minimum of one scholarship will be offered to a student entering Year 7 who is a daughter/granddaughter of a Past Pupil

Music
Presentation Sisters’ Music Scholarship
Sister Patricia Downey Music Scholarship
Sister Margaret Mary Easton Music Scholarship

Indigenous
Iona Presentation College Indigenous Scholarship - a minimum of one scholarship will be offered for a student entering Year 7 (Please contact College Registrar for further details)

For further information on all scholarships please download the ‘Scholarship Program’ from www.iona.wa.edu.au Please note that applications close for ACADEMIC scholarships at 5pm on Friday 16 March 2012. Candidates are welcome to apply for as many scholarships as is relevant to them.

SELF DEFENCE FOR WOMEN
This course aims to equip students with practical skills and the confidence to put them into practise. They include:

- Blocking and counter attacks
- Wrist and joint locks
- Break falling and take downs
- Weapons defence

Techniques used are based on Hapkido and Taekwondo principles. This course will be over 16 weeks every Tuesday and Thursday. Students need not have any previous martial arts experience.

STARTING: Tuesday 6/3/2012 10am to 12pm
WHERE: Andrew McLaughlin Community Centre (Keesing Street, Cooke Point)
COURSE FEES: $450.00 (insurance included)
WHAT TO WEAR: T-shirt, shorts or track pants (bring an old long sleeve shirt and your own water bottle)

Master Instructor: John Geeves Taekwondo 6 Dan Black Belt. John will be taking bookings from Friday 17 February 2012 – Class numbers limited at 12. 0428 831 359

HAPPINESS IS A DRY BED
Does your Child still wet the bed?
Are they 6 years or older? If so, help is available.
For further information contact – Community Health Nurse 9174 1365 or 9174 1366
In SOSE recently we were discussing the ways people communicate now and how people communicated before the invention of phones and computers.

One way of communicating that we discussed was communication through music and songs.

To continue with this idea, Mrs Sheen played us a piece of music from *Carnival of the Animals*. She wouldn’t tell us which animal the music was about. We had to close our eyes and think about what the music was communicating to us and then paint what we thought the music was about.
The music was about an elephant but we had lots of great ideas. We thought of lions, horses, crocodiles, hippos, sharks, foxes, butterflies, bears and of course, a few elephants.
Wine & Cheese - On the House! Tempting?

The perfect opportunity to unwind in the company of others!
Come for a Wine and Cheese casual evening on Monday March 12th @ 7pm in the school Library.
Mark your calendar!

St Patrick’s Day  
Friday 16th March

The P&F will be selling Green Cup Cakes for 50c each at recess.
If you can make some cupcakes, please let Emma know ekmerlo@hotmail.com

HAPPY ST. PATTY’S DAY

Easter Raffle

Please bring in an egg for the Easter Raffle.

If everyone donates an egg, we will have many prizes for each year group.

For Free!