Dear Parents and Guardians

The newsletter is out early this week as Thursday and Friday are non-school days for students. I hope you all enjoy your mini break and look forward to seeing everyone again next Monday.

Questions or Concerns
I would like to remind parents that your child’s teacher is your first ‘port of call’ if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. They are the ones working with your children and will be the best person to answer your questions. If after seeing your teacher you are still unhappy please come and talk to me personally. Don’t go to another staff member because you place that person in an uncomfortable position. Thank you for your support.

Lexile Reading Program
My next little blurb concerns the Lexile Reading Program. Lexile is designed to give students, from Years Four to Seven, a levelled home reading program. It is designed to motivate students into taking responsibility for their reading. The program begins with each student sitting a diagnostic test lasting approximately 40 mins. The test

Prayer
God of compassion, you await the sinner’s return and spread a feast to welcome home the lost. Save us from the temptations that lead away from you, and drawn us back by the constancy of your love, that we may take our place in your household and gladly share our inheritance with others.
Grant this through Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, holy and mighty God for ever and ever.
Amen.

Lives of Grace and Service
Drawing deeper into our relationship with Jesus consider the reality that you are loved unconditionally by the Father who rushes down the road to meet you. Allow God to envelop you with love.
During the years in Nazareth Jesus had been intensely alive to his world and what was happening between human beings and their constantly loving God. When he began preaching, he wanted to infect others with that perspective on life... (Gerald O'Collins SJ)
generates a number which is used by the teacher as a starting range for reading. This range has been predetermined by the designer of the program and begins at 100 under the student score and goes to 50 over the score. The class teacher decides where to start the student in that range and will pick a starting number that the student can handle. At St Cecilia’s we expect students to sit the test three times a year. Some students began reading this year at a lower point then they left at the end of last year. This often happens over the Christmas holidays as it takes a little while for children to get back into the swing of things. The books are designed to be a home reader with students sitting tests on the computer before school starts. If you have any questions please ask your teachers for clarification.

Year Three Family Mass
Congratulations to Mrs Sheen and the Year Three class for a wonderful Mass on Sunday. The children read beautifully and it was a real joy to be part of. Thank you to all the parents who came along, it was lovely to see so many families there participating and supporting the children.

Leadership
Yesterday some of the Year Seven students spoke in front of their peers about leadership and why they want to be school leaders. The staff and students present were very impressed by the quality and presentation of all the speakers. Each student gave sound reasons why they should be voted as School Captain. I believe any of those students would make fine leaders and representatives of St Cecilia’s. Mrs Springhall has been working with the Year Sevens on the responsibilities of leaders and their worth to the school and community. I have been impressed with the determination and gusto the Year Seven students have put into this.

Gospel Reading - Prodigal Son
Sunday’s Gospel reading related to the Prodigal Son. It tells of a young man who wants to go out and experience the world. He asks his father for half his inheritance to fund his travel. The son soon squanders all his money and has to look after pigs to survive. He eventually returns home, in shame, to face his father where a feast is laid out to celebrate the return of the son who was dead but is now alive. The father sees him from a distance and runs to greet him because he is overcome with ten for the sake of love. Jesus tells this parable to stress how pride was forgotten and forgiveness others seems like the weak thing to do when in fact it is the strong thing to do. Forgiveness is a very strong emotion and can either heal a problem or make it worse. Sometimes swallowing our pride and forgiving others seems like the weak thing to do when in fact it is the strong thing to do. Jesus tells this parable to stress how pride was forgotten for the sake of love.

Dates to remember
14-15 March Staff Retreat - no school these two days
18 March St Patricks Day - Green Jelly Cup Day
21 March Harmony Day & John Fleming visit
22 March Faction Swimming Carnival
25 March New School Board Members Induction
26 March Staff Commissioning Mass

God Bless

Peter Allen
Principal

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES
St Cecilia’s - Port Hedland
Tue, Wed & Thu Morning Mass 8.00am
Friday Morning Mass 7.15am
Saturday Evening Vigil Mass 6.00pm
Sunday Morning Mass 8.30 am

St John the Baptist - South Hedland
Wednesday Night Mass 6.00pm
Saturday Evening Vigil Mass 6.30pm
Sunday Morning Mass 9.30am
(after 9.30 communion round)

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lent and our Chick-a-Thon
Our chick-a-thon finishes in less than two weeks and is taking St Cecilia’s school by storm! The contribution across all the classes has been amazing…our chick-o-meter currently reads the following for funds raised for Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion Appeal:

Kindy: $10
Pre Primary: $10
Year 1: $10
Year 2: $30
Year 3: $110
Year 4: $110
Year 5: $40
Year 6: $250
Year 7: $50

The last day for contributions will be Thursday 21 March… Can Project compassion boxes please be returned to classes by this date also.

Happy chick-a-thon!
Holy Week Assemblies

Our Holy Week assemblies commence during Holy Week – Week 8 of the term. They will all be held in the church and start after the morning bell at about 8.45am. The program is as follows:

Monday 25 March – Year 1 lead the Palm Sunday reflection
Wednesday 27 March – Year 4 lead the Holy Thursday reflection
Thursday 28 March – Year 7 lead the Good Friday reflection
Thursday 4 April – Year 2 lead the Easter reflection

We hope you can join us during such a significant time in our Church’s calendar.

Mrs Grace Joukhadar
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Book Week

This year book week will be celebrated in Term Three, 17 August – 23 August. The theme will be ‘Reading Across the Universe’. During this week there will be a dress up day for the students. Students will need to come dressed up as a book character or as something pertinent to the theme. A book fair will also be run by the P&F during this time. I know it can be a bit stressful finding costumes so the P&F and I thought it would be a good idea to give parents an early heads up and pop these dates into their calendars.

Thank you

Mrs Nicola Simpson
Library Teacher

Staff Retreat

This Thursday and Friday 14-15 March, the staff of St Cecilia’s will be venturing off to Indee Station for a staff retreat. This retreat forms part of staff’s faith formation and professional development in Religious Education. The retreat will be led by the school’s Leadership team and Fr John Martin and will include times for reflection, prayer, Mass and reading Scripture. Please keep the staff in your prayers during this time.

Year 3 Family Mass

Thank you to Mrs Mandy Sheen and the Year Three class for taking leading roles at Mass on Sunday last week. It was so lovely to see a full Church with all our families sharing in the celebration of the Mass.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is celebrated on 21 March this year. The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. In 2013 the theme is: Many Stories – One Australia. Our Australian Story is diverse. We come from many countries around the world. We each make up the pages of the bigger Australia story we share today. From the Dreamtime to the Eureka to the Snowy River, from the outback to the city, in wartime and in peace, our stories may be heart-wrenching but also inspirational. On Thursday morning, 21 March at assembly in the Hall, as a school we will acknowledge Harmony Day through a reflection and prayer.

Holy Week Assemblies

The West Australian is giving all West Australian schools the chance to WIN a share in $10 000! On Saturday March 16 and 23 a coupon will appear in The Weekend West. To be in the running to win we need to collect as many coupons as possible. Each coupon collected is another chance in the prize draw. So grab The Weekend West on Saturday March 16 and 23 and cut out the coupons!

Just a reminder to please collect the coupons out of this week and next week’s The Weekend West newspaper. The more we can collect the more chances we have of winning a share of $10 000! Your support is greatly appreciated!

ICAS

Last week information about the ICAS, along with permission slips were sent home. Please note there is a date change. The writing assessment was scheduled to be held on Monday 17 June. This is actually a pupil free day so it will now be run on Wednesday 19 June. Just a reminder that permission slips and payments need to be in by Thursday, 28 March.

Thank you

Mrs Nicola Simpson
Assistant Principal

On Monday the 2013 School Captains were selected. This process included a written application, a speech to Year 5-7 students and observations of performance in the classroom, playground and at the Leadership Challenge Day.

All candidates did a superb job on all levels and we are so lucky to have such a terrific group of Year Seven students to choose from.

School Captains for 2013 are:

Aditya Gupta and Georgia Hinch

On Wednesday, Year 1-7 students had a meeting to select their Faction Leader and to start creating a bit of team spirit for the upcoming Swimming Carnival.

The following students were selected as Faction Leaders:

Canty Leaders:
Gerieme Seno and Ella Hinch

Costello Leaders:
Kyle Gould and Tayla Selfe

Mathews Leaders:
Seb Dalitz and Kirra Fitzhenry

These students will have specific roles throughout the year, but they will not be able to fulfil the many and varied leadership roles throughout the school without the tremendous support of the entire Year Seven class. All Year Seven students at St Cecilia’s are Leaders, and I feel very privileged to work with such a bright and responsible group of young people.

The selected leaders will be presented with their badge at the assembly on Monday morning in the Undercover Area (8:25).

Mrs Springhall
Year Seven Teacher

Congratulations
SCHOOL FEES 2013
School fees were posted out last week, if you have not received yours, please contact Genni McCormack in the office. Payment is due by Thursday 28 March 2013. Thank you.

CANTEEN HELPERS NEEDED
Please see Kelly in the canteen to discuss your offers of assistance.

Even half an hour any morning of the week 8.30am to 9.00am would be appreciated.

UNIFORM SHOP HELPERS NEEDED
We require volunteers to help with filling orders before/after assembly each Thursday. Any offers of help would be appreciated. Please see Hilary in the office.

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

March
7 FELSNER, Sarah Y1
9 KRUIZE, Caitlin Y4
10 MCDONALD, Piper Y7
12 ELLIOTT, Alyssa Y6
12 ELLIOTT, Cooper Y6
14 SANG, Benjamin Y3
14 SANG, Joseph Y3
14 GREEN, Hannah Y7
15 CECICH, Caeley Y6
16 PUGSLEY, John K
16 LEOPARDI, Isabella Y3
17 KAVANAGH, Tyler Y6

MERIT AWARDS
7 March 3013
PP: Chiara Foti Max Smith
Yr 1: Zane Leeds Jordan Schmich
Yr 2: Emily Boland Nicholas Galovic
Isabella Patzel
Yr 3: Year 3 Class
Yr 4: Takudzwa Hunya Merina Mdwere
Kyle Van Den Hurk
Yr 5: Max Britcliffe Thomas Denney
Angelique Leopardi Caelan Press
Yr 6: Caley Cecich Alioth Paciante
Yr 7: Mason Rehn

DONATIONS PLEASE
Mrs Springhall would like any donations of buttons, and also old plastic cards (credit card style): fly buys, discount cards, membership cards). These items will be transformed into jewellery.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE BACK AT SCHOOL BY:
Thursday 21 March

Sorry no late orders

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOSPITALITY COURSES
Course 1:
Certificate I in Kitchen Operations
Commencement date: 10 April
Course times :Wednesday and Thursdays 9 am-1 pm for 11 weeks excluding the school holidays
Course Cost:$457.85 Concession available
Participants will learn all basic aspects of working in a kitchen. They will do lots of cooking and some theory work. They will gain confidence and a qualification. Most days they will have something to take home for dinner as well.

Course 2:
Day Baking Class
Commencement Date: 20 May
Course Times: Mondays 9am-1 pm for 6 weeks excluding the public holiday
Course Cost:$230.00
Participants will learn how to professionally bake up a storm. They will cook pastries, cakes and yeast goods with confidence that will impress family and friends. And also gain three units of competence from within our Hospitality Training Package.
Contact person to express interest, ask questions or enrol is: Jenny Heffernan 91589415
jenny.heffernan@pilbara.wa.edu.au
PORT HEDLAND JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
Sign on: Saturday 6 April
Marie Mayland Oval @ 2pm
Birth certificate must be sighted.
Fees: $60 first player, $40 for second player
CASH ONLY MUST BE PAID ON THE DAY
Kids sports program includes players with Parents that hold pension, concession card or are low income earners. Jade Wright 0418750578

JUNIOR SOCCER REGISTRATION
Saturday 16 and 23 March.
Between 10am and 1pm.
This will be held at the Port Hedland Boulevard Shopping Centre and at the Soccer/Rugby Oval.
Forms and information will be on the day.
Cost $75 for first child, $50 for second and there on.

EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE IN 2013 AND IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

In June-July students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months.
Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.
If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student
Wow! We’ve all had a great start to Term One in Year Six! We started off the term a little rusty on our content knowledge, but have so far regained it over the past weeks. Our first task of 2013 was an assignment on the Battle of Fromelles. A bit too much for the first weeks of Term One I think, however we have had more than long enough to complete it!

During Week 5 we have begun focusing on Measurement. We have completed activities where we have had to measure the area and perimeter of the playground, sports shed, basketball court and the water tanks on the oval. Speaking about maths are you keeping up with everything in your class?

Another awesome programme that is soon to come in the Year Six class is our Parliamentary debates. Here various parties will be debating chosen local and classroom issues. Before this happens the Year Six class has been set a homework task to create and research topics to debate about!

We have also been brainstorming ideas for our Year Six/Seven camp fundraising. Here are some of the ideas already mentioned in class: a school disco, sausage sizzles, cupcake stalls, free dress day a Year Six fair and many more, so watch out St. Cecilia’s students, any of the above may be happening soon!

Ever since Year Three the current Year Six class has been communicating with a Thailand orphanage by letter, receiving replies and have enjoyed all the letters that have been exchanged. This year we have again enjoyed writing to our pen pals and hope to hear their replies soon.

In conclusion the Year Six class is already up and out of their holiday suits and are looking forward to any challenges that are thrown at them.

Gemima Rahman & Zoe Britcliffe
St Patrick’s Day

Jelly Cups for Sale
Monday 18th March
50 cents per cap to be donated to the Cleft a thon

As Saint Cecilia’s is an allergy aware school it has been decided that this year we will be making green jelly cups for the children to help celebrate St Patrick’s Day. They will be distributed to the children just before recess. We would appreciate a donation be made to your class Caritas collection box.

Easter Raffle

Every year we treat the children to a FREE Easter Raffle. Please bring in an Easter egg or treat and we will package them up to raffle at Easter.

The prizes will be presented at the School Easter Mass.

Please drop the eggs or other treats into the box in the office.

Cookbook

This year we are planning to compile a cookbook with all of our favourite recipes and children’s artwork. We hope to have them ready to sell at the fete. Please start thinking of recipes you would like to include and we will start collecting them soon.

St Cecilia’s P&F School Fete

The fete sub committee meetings will be held of a morning in the library and children are welcome to attend. Please come along and share your ideas and help us to hold another successful fete for our school and general community.

Thank you to Tash Aspland who has offered to coordi-