Dear Parents/Guardians

Week Eight is almost at an end and we have two weeks of school left before the end of term. This has been a busy term with staff getting to know their students. I would like to thank all the staff for the dedication they put into the teaching process at St Cecilia's. We are truly blessed to have such a caring staff here.

Term Two we will just as busy with a survey taking place in the first few weeks back. A random number of families will be asked to fill out a survey on how they feel about the school. If you are selected please complete the survey as it gives us the data to make changes if required. After the last survey parents said they would like greater communication channels opened up between them and the school. This led to a school change of how we communicated to parents. The school introduced SMS, emails, class dojo and class pages that have enhanced two way communication.

Term Two will also see NAPLAN Testing being held during Week Three. Please keep this low key at home as we don't want students stressing. The results will not prevent or enhance a student's chances of attending a preferred high school. Schools are funded on the number of students enrolled not on how they performed in NAPLAN. The results can be used, in conjunction with school testing, to stream students into ability groups.

Easter
Are we ready to enter Holy Week with Jesus?
It might seem difficult to connect the Gospel from Palm Sunday with Holy Week which leads us to Easter - the greatest feast for all Christians. Looking at the gospel we see Christ almost doing a caricature of a king, parading on a young horse, (other gospel accounts tell us it is a donkey), entering Jerusalem and being acclaimed by the people. In just a few days they will not be acclaiming him and even those closest to him will be denying him. Yet this entrance into Jerusalem seems necessary, as though Jesus allows this

Loving God,
I am just beginning to realise how much you love me.
Your son, Jesus was humble and obedient.
He fulfilled your will for him by becoming human and suffering with us.
I ask you for the desire to become more humble
so that my own life might also bear witness to you.
I want to use the small sufferings I have in this world
to give you glory.
Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth.
Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus.
Help me to be with Jesus in this week
as he demonstrates again his total love for me.
He died so that I would no longer
be separated from you.
Help me to feel how close you are
and to live in union with you.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

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moment because he is king and should be acknowledged so - "I tell you, if these keep silence the stones will cry out". So how do we find ourselves in these days that are 'knocking on the door of Easter'? Are we ready to enter with Jesus in celebration into Holy Week, and then continue the journey with him, alone, betrayed to the cross but with the greatest hope of salvation through His Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning? Unfortunately we may have some baggage when it comes to Easter and the Church either through our own misunderstandings or because we don't come from a background where Easter has been put in it's proper context - that is the idea that we need to be sad and go to church a lot because it is part of doing penance, sacrificing etc..... Nothing could be further from the truth. Even worse is that if we are no longer regularly participating in the life of the Church we have to struggle to cast off the layers of guilt because we are not 'doing Easter' in the Church. Sadly we have missed the point if this is what we will struggle with and all that we will be left with when this Easter has passed. Easter is an active celebration of the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Active because this Easter coming has never happened before; active because we are invited to live these days, not just to follow the play and do the rituals; and most importantly, active because this week leads to the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus in our lives, in our reality exactly as it is.

So in the days ahead whether we are here in town, away or where ever, allow the event of Easter to reach you, in whatever small way. Let the walls down so that the message of Jesus Christ may enter our lives on Easter Sunday morning.

I hope you all have a safe, happy and holy Easter. Remember Tuesday 29 March is a holiday for Catholic Schools.

Yours in FAITH, FAMILY and FRIENDSHIP

Peter Allen
Principal

PARISH 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

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

HOLY WEEK - 2016
at St Cecilia Church – Port Hedland

Palm Sunday 20/3/2016
8.30am Mass

Holy Thursday 24/3/2016
7.00pm Mass

Good Friday 25/3/2016
9.00am Stations of the Cross
3.00pm Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Vigil 26/3/2016
7.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 27/3/2016
8.30 m Mass
3.15pm Mass at Seafarers’ Centre

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
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Special Assemblies – Holy Week**

This morning the Years One, Two, Three and Four classes led the school in our Holy Week Assembly. Year One began the assembly in the Hall with their representation of Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week. The Assembly then moved to the Undercover Area where Year Two presented Holy Thursday, the night of the Last Supper. After Holy Thursday, the school moved to the Church, passing members of the Year Four class posed in positions that represented the Stations of the Cross. These stations show the moments leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus. Once at the Church, the Year Three class then presented their Easter Sunday Assembly, the day when we rejoice that Jesus is risen.

**Whole School Mass**

Our next whole school Mass will be held on Monday 04 April. This Mass celebrates the Annunciation of the Lord and will be led by our Year Five class. We are very hopeful that Father John will be back with us to lead the Mass after his two month visit to Newman and as always, we will welcome the priests from South Hedland and all parents that are able to join us also.

**First Holy Communion**

It was fantastic to see so many families attending the enrolment Masses last weekend. If you were unable to attend the Mass, please see your Parish Priest to hand in the enrolment forms for your child and to collect the first home task. Please note that home-based activities will be handed out at the weekend Masses, excluding Easter Sunday and during the school holidays. These activities are important for you and your child to work through together to involved the family in the sacrament and to reinforce the belief that the parents are the first teachers of their children. If you miss any of these activities, you will need to see your parish priest for the copies missed. Furthermore, a reminder that the first Parent Meeting will be held in the St Cecilia’s School Hall on Thursday 07 April.

Wishing you all a blessed Easter and for those that are going away for the Easter break may you have safe travels.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Religious Education Coordinator

**GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS**

**ICAS Testing**

If your child is in Years Three to Six and they are interested in taking part in the upcoming ICAS Tests please remember to return your expression of interest form and entry payment to the office by Thursday 31 March.

If your child did not receive a letter and they would like to participate, please download one from the school website or collect one from the office.

For more information please visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au) or contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or by email at info@eaa.unsw.edu.au.

Also, by visiting [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online), you can help your child to prepare for the ICAS English, Mathematics and Science tests using the practice online tests.

**Book-a-Thon**

Our Book-a-thon finishes in two weeks and is taking St Cecilia’s school by storm! The contribution across all the classes has been amazing…our book-o-meter currently shows that we have raised just nearly $350 in funds for Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion Appeal just through our classroom collection boxes. Thank you to our Year Six Community Leaders and Mrs McCormack for collecting and counting the donations each week. Also a big thank you to the P&F for organising the cupcakes for St Patrick’s Day. The P&F donated all gold coin to Caritas a total of $201.00. Remember, all Project Compassion boxes that are being used at home need to be returned to school by the end of the term.

**Harmony Day**

On Monday 21 March we recognised Harmony Day at school. Harmony Day is a time for all Australians to remember and respect our diverse cultural backgrounds and to share what we have in common. We began the day with a prayer for Harmony Day at Assembly and throughout the day, and week, students took part in activities that helped them to understand the diversity we have in our school, town and country.

Kindy and Pre-Primary made an art piece that is on display in the foyer leading through to the Kindy/Pre-Primary area using all the colours of the world flags and a money chain with the money collected being donated to Caritas.

Years One, Two and Three made Harmony Day balloons and took part in story-telling, including hearing stories from the Maori culture. Years Four, Five and Six looked at family trees, discussed what being Australian means and created a display that celebrates the diversity in their classes. Finally, in Library lessons, each child is creating a 'What makes me special’ hand to add to our Harmony Tree.

**Ride2School Day**

Thank you to everyone that came along to support our Ride2School Day. It was great to see so many students and parents joining in on (bikes, scooters and foot and there were even a few of our younger students on backsl!). The students had a great time getting to school and enjoyed their breakfast in the Hall. Each student received a raffle ticket to win some great prizes that had been donated by the Town of Port Hedland and a special thank you also goes to Smirkey Sports and BHP for providing these prizes.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Assistant Principal

**BOOKCLUB**

Online ordering is now available online through the Scholastic LOOP system. Please go to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) and follow the prompts. Alternatively, forms may continue to be returned to school with payment and they will be processed for you.
SPORTS NEWS

SWIMMING FACTION CARNIVAL RESULTS
1st: 830 Canty
2nd: 810 Mathews
3rd: 550 Costello

SWIMMING FACTION CARNIVAL CHAMPIONS
Champion Y2: Charlotte Schmich    Nokutenda Ndwere
Runner up Y2: Rutendo Kuzamba     Chibudom Dike
Champion Y3: Paisley Westlake     Hayden Fitt
Runner up Y3: Arani Prindiville   Brayden Lee
Champion Y4: Jordan Schmich       Tadi Kuzamba
Runner up Y4: Amy Wade             Raphael Nott
Champion Y5: Presley McLarty      Ben Retallack
Runner up Y5: Jamie Payne          Ben Grasby
Champion Y6: Emma Schmich         Mace Harris
Runner up Y6: Bethany Denney      Jamal Doyle

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING TEAM
Y3: Paisley Westlake, Hayden Fitt, Arani Prindiville, Brayden Lee, Emmaline Whitehead, Stuart Wilson, Zain Salawu
Y4: Jordan Schmich, Tadi Kuzamba, Amy Wade, Raphael Nott, Zaina Doyle, Rawiri Poharama, Shaban Salawu
Y5: Presley McLarty, Ben Retallack, Jamie Payne, Ben Grasby, Sahara Soutar, Rohan Collins, Josh Denney, James Guilmartin, Seth Pentney, Megan Fitt, Oliver Rogers
Y6: Emma Schmich, Mace Harris, Bethany Denney, Jamal Doyle, Shannon Wade, Abbie Rogers, Jayden Rozario, Beau Wuruki, Ashley Dwyer, Menushi Perera

MERIT AWARDS
10 March 2016
PP: Oliver de Andrade
Y1: Xian Cornelius
Y2: Charlie Drysdale
Y3: Arani Prindiville
Y4: Zaina Doyle
Y5: Oliver Rogers
Y6: Aparna Sunil
Leo Gaudron
Tanikia Keep
Regan Johnson
Oscar Thompson
Shaban Salawu
Madison Shade
Izwirashe Kahondo
Paisley Westlake
Anna Wellbeloved

17 March 2016
PP: Ashley Fitt
Y1: Eloise Clarke
Y3: Jacobie Dhu
Y4: Nat Cornelius
Y5: Athena Mendoza
Y6: Bethany Denney
Abigail Stanley
Diwan Salawu
Zekiel Dhu
Jordan Schmich
Rohan Collins
Jamal Doyle

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

March
14 SANG, Benjamin Y6
14 SANG, Joseph Y6
16 PUGSLEY, John Y2
16 LEOPARDI, Isabella Y6 16/
21 BENNETT, Brooklyn Y1
27 UNKOVICH, Caleb Y3
29 SIAMUTETE, Moono PP

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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: __________
LIBRARY BOOK COVERING

Child’s Name: ___________________________ Class: ________________

I can assist the library by covering some books. Please send home some books and contact.

Parent Name: ___________________________ Contact Number: __________________

St Mary’s School Donnybrook invites you to our 100th Anniversary Sunday 1st May 2016 10am Mass followed by an open school event 11am—3pm (digital displays, memorabilia, time capsule) Morning tea & Sausage sizzle available for purchase or bring your own picnic. Please RSVP 08 9733 1496 or email admin@stmarysdbrk.wa.edu.au By April 1st 2016 Please tell all past staff and students about it. We would love to see you there! A centennial magazine will be available for purchase on the day.
K/PP Heart Shaped Money Chain
Our masterpiece art work & Harmony Week 2016 Activities

We are each unique and beautiful, but together we are a masterpiece!

everyone belongs
Sandpit Busybee

A huge thank you to the parents and staff that turned out with their wheelbarrows, shovels and brunch to make-over the Kindy & Pre-Primary sandpit.

Thank you to: Gary Bell, Mark & Bridget Tesar, Neil & Fiona Clarke, Mauricio Gonzalez, Steve Kasemets, Gregory Heslop, Claire & Warren Wellbeloved, Bob Collins, Sean Sta Maria, Jason Hayward and Mandy Sheen.

We even had some quality testing performed by our little helpers Harrison, Eloise, Sophia, Milla, Mia, Zoe, Anna and Luke on the day.

The end result looks fantastic and the students are loving it!