**NEWSLETTER**

Term 2 Week 2 - Thursday 12 May 2011

**A Mother’s Love**

There are times when only a mother’s love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.
There are times when only a mother’s love
Can share the joy we feel

When something we’ve dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.
There are times when only a mother’s faith
Can help us on life’s way
And inspire in us the confidence

We need from day to day.
For a mother’s heart and a mother’s faith
And a mother’s steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK**

Dear Parents & Guardians

Welcome back for the beginning of Term Two. It is wonderful to welcome all our new families to St Cecilia’s and to fondly remember all our families that have moved on to new schools all around Australia. It is shaping up to be a very busy term with lots of exciting events.

We began the term with a very moving Anzac assembly lead by Mrs Ramshaw and the sensational Year Seven’s. Our students were able to explain the true meaning of Anzac day to our school and showed great warmth and appreciation of all those who risked their lives to protect our way of life. Our special assemblies always help our students to gain a greater understanding of these memorable days. Our Year Seven’s presented a very moving and reverent portrayal of past and present heroes who fought for our freedom.

**COMING EVENTS**

- **Tuesday 17 MAY**
  - K & PP Scitech excursion

- **Thursday 19 MAY**
  - Constable Care K-Y7

- **Monday 20 MAY**
  - Start Smart Banking & Money Matters Incursion Y3-Y7

- **Monday 23 MAY**
  - Book Fair Wine & Cheese Parent night

- **Tuesday 24 MAY**
  - Science Show Y1-Y7
  - Communion Meeting
  - Port & South 6-7pm
  - @ St John the Baptist

- **Thursday 26 MAY**
  - Book Fair Dress up Assembly “Lights Camera Action”
  - P&F Biggest Morning Tea

- **Friday 27 MAY**
  - School Photos

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Open during school terms each Thursday after assembly approximately 9.00am to 9.45am

**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.
Mother’s Day was celebrated on the weekend. This is a truly inspirational day when we can thank our Mother’s for everything they do for us. A mother is the truest friend we can have: when trials, heavy and sudden, fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us, when troubles thicken around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavour by her kind words and counsel to help us see the good in our world and help us to find peace within.

I heard from many of our students how they celebrated Mother’s Day at home and it sounds like lots of fun was had. Many Mums were surprised with breakfast in bed and lots of lovely cards and presents. I would like to congratulate our wonderful MOTHER’S on their special day and know that all MOTHER’S were in our prayers and thoughts.

On Monday our proud Pre Primary class together with their teacher Miss Russell and teacher assistants Mrs Esmonde and Mrs McGrath presented an outstanding presentation in honour of our mums and found out all the wonderful things our mums do for us: from giving us great hugs to lighting a great fire.

**National Testing of Literacy and Numeracy**

From 10 May, as part of the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), national tests were 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 dates.

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.

**Timely Reminder**

I have noticed that a number of our students are beginning to wander into class when the teachers are not present before school. We have always adhered to the rule that before anyone enters the classroom in the morning the teacher must be present. Could I ask that all parents remind students that they must wait for the teacher to be present in the classroom before entering.

**Bus Behaviour**

I would like to remind parents that it may be a good time to discuss with their children appropriate behaviour on the bus. I have been notified that some of our students are bringing elastic bands onto the bus and shooting small bits of paper around the bus. This behaviour is unacceptable and has the ability to harm others. It needs to stop. If a students is found doing this, they will be banned for a week from travelling on the bus and you will need to find alternative travel arrangements.

**Parish Working Bee**

When looking around the Parish I have noticed that a lot of the garden is overgrown and needs a really good prune and clean up. I would like to ask parents and families to consider joining our working bee to assist in the clean up of the area around the Church and Parish. If you could join us on Friday 24 June 4.30pm it would be a wonderful opportunity to have families come and give a small amount of time to help prune the vegetation and then stay for a sausage sizzle. We could use all the help we can get. It would be an idea if we could have some dad’s on whipper snippers and lawn mowers as well as gloves on children to help pick up rubbish.

Please contact Hilary at school to let us know if you are available.

**Manners**

‘Good manners cost nothing’ is an old adage, but one that still rings true today. Words such as ‘please’, ‘thank you’ and ‘excuse me’ might be simple but their power and effect on others is immeasurable. We constantly reinforce and teach students to always use their manners.

When we stand aside to allow others to pass, or give up our seat on the bus to someone who needs it more than we do, we are saying, in a symbolic way, that we respect others enough to give them precedence in this situation. If we neglect our manners, we are in fact giving up our respect for others. If we can’t be bothered to show respect for each other in little ways that cost us nothing, what does that show about our commitment to the health and well-being of society?

So why bother with ‘please’ ‘thank you’ and ‘excuse me’? Manners are like the ‘check and balance’ of our moral health; they are the little signals that reveal the strength of our commitment to respecting others. Acknowledging that other peoples’ rights, needs and well-being must be taken into account is the beginning of our understanding of what is required of us as members of any community. They show that we respect people, all people, people we know and don’t know, people who don’t like us or are utterly different from us. We are simply acknowledging that they, like us, are part of a community that depends on our mutual respect for its peaceful and harmonious survival.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

**CANTEEN HELPERS NEEDED**

If you are able to assist in our canteen, please see Cathy our Canteen Manageress.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Welcome back to Term Two! Monday 16 May, the Staff, representatives from the School Board and the P&F will celebrate working in the Catholic Education system with a Commissioning Mass at 6pm in St Cecilia’s Church, followed by a shared meal in the school hall. This is an opportunity for staff and school representatives to reaffirm their desire to work in a Catholic School, and to remember what working in a Catholic School is all about – being witnesses to Christ in our lives and assisting the students to become witnesses to Christ.

PROJECT COMPASSION
We have moved into the season of Easter and now is the time to finalise your Project Compassion donations. Hopefully everyone in our community has had plenty of opportunities over the Lenten season to think of others less fortunate and donate generously. Please return your Project Compassion boxes to the school office by Friday 20 May.

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS
Enrolment forms will be sent out to families of students in Year 4 making their First Communion in 2011 on Monday 16 May. Enrolment forms need to be returned to Father Tom on Sunday 22 May at St Cecilia’s Church at 8:30am or St John the Baptist Church at 10:00am. If there are any parents of students in other years who would like their child to make their First Communion this year, please contact myself or Father Tom.

Below is a list of important dates for parents of students making their First Communion this term. Please make sure you have these dates marked on your calendar. It is important for parents to attend the First Communion Meetings to learn how best to support your child through this amazing experience of receiving Jesus for the first time.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Liberal Dates for Parents of Students Making Their First Communion

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Scitech Excursion</td>
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BOARD THANK YOU
The School Board would like to sincerely thank Deb Lowe for her valuable contribution over numerous years. Deb was Board Secretary for several years and has also been a general member. Deb’s support for the Board has been outstanding and her membership will be greatly missed when her and her family move to Perth. We wish Deb and her family all the very best in their new “city venture”. Deb’s resignation has left a vacancy on the Board. If you are interested, or know of anyone that is interested, in becoming a board member please email board chairperson Trish Bourke at mick.n.trish@bigpond.com.

MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES
10 MERLO, Nicholas Y1
10 BUTLER, Natalie Y5
12 DECOURY, Jenaee PP
12 ALLEN, Chloe Y2
13 ROZARIO, Jayden Y1
13 WINTHROP, Paige Y7

UNIFORMS
We have a variety of hair accessories suitable for school for sale in the school office.

LIBRARY NEWS
BOOK FAIR – LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!
This year St Cecilia’s will be celebrating Book Fair in Week 4 (23 – 26 May). The theme for the week is ‘LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!’ Books will be available for sale after school (a note will come home next week about this, with dates and times). All students are encouraged to dress up for the character parade on Thursday 26 May at assembly. Start thinking about costumes — I know Ms MacKenzie has an awesome costume planned!
Miss Dee Campbell
Library Teacher

EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS
After all their hard work with the NAPLAN and other testing the students of St Cecilia’s are looking forward to a bit of fun! Over the next few weeks we have a number of excursions/incursions planned for the students to participate in. Please make a note of the following dates and events.

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<td>Yrs 1 - 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>Rangi Menezes</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 April</td>
<td>PP: Breanna Johnson</td>
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<td>17 May</td>
<td>Scitech Excursion</td>
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MERIT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>Imogen Cornelius</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>Eliza Boyd</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>Jesse Battle</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4</td>
<td>Damian Mathews</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>Georgina Mannix</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Baze Nematollahi</td>
<td>Drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 7</td>
<td>Ashima Gupta</td>
<td>Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Phoebe Perkins</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>Braxon Holmstrom</td>
<td>Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>Kayla DeCourcy</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>Ethan Gould</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4</td>
<td>Lachlan Galovic</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5</td>
<td>Tyrah Kelly</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Charlotte Boyd</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 7</td>
<td>Y7 Sports Organisers</td>
<td>Technology</td>
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Palm Sunday

The Year Three class opened Holy Week by sharing the story of Palm Sunday. This was the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey in preparation of his Passover feast. All of the towns people shouted “Hosanna” and waved palm branches as he rode by.
The Soldiers took Jesus away!

YEAR FIVE — HOLY THURSDAY

The Last Supper.
**Year Two Assembly**

“Good Friday”

On Monday 18 April, all the school went over to the church to watch our class put on an assembly with the theme “Good Friday.” We all dressed up in costumes and played parts of the “Stations of The Cross” which tell the story of the day Jesus was crucified.

There are 14 ‘Stations Of The Cross.’

1) Jesus is condemned.
2) Jesus is made to carry his cross.
3) Jesus falls for the first time.
4) Jesus meets his mother.
5) Simon helps Jesus to carry the cross.
6) Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.
7) Jesus falls for the second time.
8) Jesus speaks to the women.
9) Jesus falls for the third time.
10) Jesus is stripped of his clothes.
11) Jesus is nailed to the cross.
12) Jesus dies on the cross.
13) Jesus is taken down from the cross.
14) Jesus is laid in the tomb.
Easter Sunday

Christ is Risen!

Year One presented the final day of Holy Week, Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is a day of celebration so we decided to ‘amp’ things up a bit by breaking into rap.

God’s not dead. No! He is alive!
Mother's Day Raffle

The P&F held a FREE raffle at the Special Mother's Day assembly on Monday with all students in the running to win some great prizes for their mums. There were 7 lucky students who surprised their mums with gifts such as a cleaning voucher, hair voucher, beauty voucher, Tupperware, Nutrimetics products and some lovely wine and chocolates.

Please support these local businesses who donated for the raffle:

Unicorn Cleaning & Gardening Services
Ph: 9172 1804

Become - Professional-Grade Skin Care
Keryn Palmer
Ph: 0402 982 691
email: kerynpalmer@mybecome.net
web: www.mybecome.net/kerynpalmer

Luke Paul for Hair
Ph: 9172 3101

Pilbara Perfections - At home beauty
Jess
Ph: 0432 345 956

Northern Angels Tupperware Manager
Sarah O'Connor
Ph: 0439 993 426

Book Fair will be on, in Week 4.

Book Fair is just around the corner - week four of term! The theme for this year is "Light, Camera, Action". The children really look forward to this week - especially the Dress Up Thursday. Students will be encouraged to dress up as a character from a movie, movie star or 'behind the scene' crew! There will also be a parent buying night on the Monday - look out for the flyer coming home next week. Please see Hilary in the office if you can help out.

Thursday 26th May we will be holding a Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for the Cancer Council. Please stay after assembly and enjoy morning tea, bring a plate to share if you can, and a donation for the Cancer Council.

Australia's BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Friday 10th June will be a Lap-a-thon for the whole school, raising funds to assist with the school's numeracy focus for 2011. Forms will be out next week, so stay tuned!