FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back everyone, I hope you all had a terrific time with your children over the school holidays. Term Two promises to be a very busy one with NAPLAN, Sporting Carnivals and incursions. We will even manage to fit some teaching and learning in there somewhere.

St Cecilia’s is a Catholic Primary School and as such we include prayer as a way of life. We expect all parents to support the school in this matter even if you don’t pray at home.

Prayer is a way of saying thank you or it is often used as a way of having quiet time and thinking about what we are grateful for. The Catholic Education Office mandates that all Catholic Schools in West Australia dedicate 30 minutes a day to Religious Education. The prayer used in this newsletter represents the three core values St Cecilia’s holds dearest. FAITH, FAMILY, FRIENDSHIP. If we all strive to achieve those things mentioned in the prayer we know we are walking in the footsteps of Jesus.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing will commence in Week Three this term. It is held annually for all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It is designed to give the Federal Government data to track student progress through their schooling life. This information is used to help develop education strategies to enhance the curriculum designed by the Australian Government. It is not designed to classify students or put them in any ranking for further studies. I would encourage parents to not make a ‘big deal’ out of the testing and treat it as any normal test their child/children might take. Your children will reflect your attitude towards the testing and this can cause anxiety and stress. The best way to help your children is to be positive about the tests, and to ensure they have a good sleep and eat a healthy breakfast on their testing days.

No Catholic School should be using NAPLAN results as a basis of enrolment. Schools will look at NAPLAN data to stream students into their ability levels to further assist in their learning.

School Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for keeping us safe over the holiday break. Bless our school families as we continue our learning journey this term.

Give all students the will to do their best, to be kind to others, to have enthusiasm for things that are good. Guide them to grow their gifts and use them for you in service to others.

Bless our staff that they may meet the needs of all our students and have the wisdom for the right word at the right time as they guide student learning.

Bless our parents that they continue to give good guidance and support to their children.

Thank you for the gift of Your Son who walks with us each day and is part of our life now not just in the world to come.

Amen
School Improvement
During 2016 the school is looking at how we teach. To assist with this we have come up with an acronym – C A R E L
C – Common Language – Language used in all classes and by all teachers
A – Ability Grouping – Spelling Mastery, in class ability groups (also known as Differentiation)
R – Repetition – Times tables, letter sounds, sight words
E – Explicit Teaching – A method of teaching
L – Learning Intentions – Stating what the goals of the lessons are

The staff have been holding Professional Learning after school to discuss and learn how to put these into best practice. We have hired an Explicit Teaching coach who is working with the teachers to ensure they are using the correct strategies in class.

Parents can assist us to help in one area – Times tables. Please help your child learn their times tables. It really helps their maths ability and instils confidence when multiplying and dividing. Check with your teacher to see what times tables your child is studying at the present time.

Roy Hill Foundation Launch
On Thursday the Roy Hill Foundation will make it’s official launch in the school. The Foundation has been set up by Roy Hill and has many corporate sponsors involved. The Foundation offers to supply needed resources to communities. St Cecilia’s has been selected to be the first school in WA to receive support from the Foundation. We are lucky enough to have been offered four different types of support.

♦ Scholarships for Indigenous Students
♦ Funding for Homework Centre
♦ ED Connect – Student Mentoring
♦ A Parent support group facilitated by a Perth based psychologist

St Cecilia’s has been chosen to be a trial school in WA. At present two of the initiatives are under way with the ED Connect Mentoring Program being set up as we speak. This is a huge honour and opportunity for the school. We will be able to demonstrate what a working partnership between corporate Australia and schools can achieve.

School Board
The school board will meet on Thursday 5 May at 7.00pm, in the library. At present the school board still requires members. If you are interested in becoming a board member please contact me to arrange a meeting.

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)

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

RCIA: (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Every two years we conduct the programme called RCIA. We will be starting this programme in Term 3 (starting on Wed. 20th. July). It will run, during school terms, up to Easter of 2017. There will be a one hour session each Wednesday, from 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm (strictly). It will be conducted by Fr. John and a team of presenters. If you are interested in the Catholic faith, either to be baptised or received into the church, please contact Fr. John (on 0417 436714). If you know of others who are interested please invite them to take part.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sacrament of First Holy Communion
We pray for our students who are preparing to make their First Holy Communion later this month. Children have been attending the Sunday Masses and have been receiving weekly activities to complete at home with their families. These activities are important as they support the learning that is taking place at school during Religious Education lessons and involves the family in the spiritual journey that these children are preparing for. These activities are handed out at Mass each week so it is important that you are attending Mass to receive these activities.

Important dates for Communion are as follows:

Second Family Meeting : Thursday May 12 6:30pm St Cecilia’s school hall
Rehearsal : Saturday 21 May (St John the Baptist 1:00pm; St Cecilia’s 3:00pm)
First Holy Communion : St John the Baptist - Saturday 28 May 6:30pm
St Cecilia’s - Sunday 29 May 8:30am

Sacrament of Confirmation
Enrolment letters for the Sacrament of Confirmation have been sent home with our Year Five and Six students. The enrolment date for Confirmation is the weekend of Saturday 14/Sunday 15 May at your local parish. This is a very important sacrament and as was mentioned in the letter it is important that you carefully discuss this sacrament with your child to ensure that they are ready to take part. As with all sacraments, it is important that you make the commitment to attend Mass regularly and the family meetings to help support your child with their preparation. If you think that your child should have received an enrolment letter but they missed out, please come to see Mrs Sheen in the office or your parish priest.
Important dates for Confirmation are as follows:

*Enrolment Mass:* Saturday 14/Sunday 15 May – Local parish times
*First Family Meeting:* Thursday 30 June 6:30pm St Cecilia’s school hall
*Second Family Meeting:* Thursday 28 July 6:30pm St Cecilia’s school hall
*Rehearsal:* Saturday 06 August ((St John the Baptist 1:00pm; St Cecilia’s 3:00pm)
*Confirmation:*  
  - St Cecilia’s: Saturday 13 August 6:30pm  
  - St John the Baptist: Sunday 14 August 9:30am

Communio Week
Communio is a name given to a plan to help the needy people in our own Diocese of Geraldton with money collected through Communio being shared amongst various charities and support groups within the Diocese to help those in need.

Each year we recognise Communio Week in our school and this year, Communio Week will be during Week 5 of this term. This is a time to learn more about some of the people that our Diocese supports, to pray for these people and to raise funds for them. We will be celebrating Communio Week with a Free Dress Day and pre-order lunch on Wednesday 24 May to raise money to support the needy people in our diocese. A letter containing more information about Communio Week and our how we will fundraise for the Diocese will be sent home next week.

Mrs Mandy Sheen  
Religious Education Coordinator

SCHOOL INFORMATION

**Book Covering**
I have recently arranged for the purchase of a number of new books that will be used in classrooms for children to take home as part of the Literacy Pro Reading program. Before they can be taken, they need to be covered so I am looking for some eager parents that are good with a roll of contact and scissors to join our book covering party on Friday 13 May.

The day will be held in the Library, beginning straight after school drop off. I know some of you may still be recovering from the horrors of covering books in readiness for back to school so to sweeten the deal I am offering morning tea for anyone that comes along to help out.

Please come to the office or fill in the form in the newsletter to let me know if you are able to help out. The more helpers, the less books you each have to cover so encourage as many people as you can to come along.

**Mother’s Day**
Wishing all our mums, grandmothers and aunts a wonderful Mother’s Day on Sunday. I also want to extend an extra special wish to those of us that are mother figures, those that may not biologically be a mother but have selflessly taken on the role of mother to help make the life of a child a better one.

While every day should be Mother’s or Father’s Day, I hope you enjoy this extra special day that is just for you and being your special day, I hope you get a quite five minutes to enjoy one of those elusive hot cups of tea!

**Uniforms and School Shoes**
At our assemblies, and in classes, the students have been reminded about our school uniform policy. They have been reminded about wearing the correct uniform on the correct day, the correct socks to wear, what jewellery is allowed to be worn, etc. Students have also been reminded that if for any reason they are not able to wear their correct uniform then a note from a parent must be brought in to the teacher explaining the infraction; if they do not bring a note from a parent, a uniform slip will be sent home with them that afternoon.

**School Shoes:** are to be  
  - Black leather lace-up shoes (flat) or Girls: Black leather MaryJane type shoes  
  - Black joggers are not considered to be leather shoes  
**Sports Shoes:** Predominately white runners with white laces or velcro  
**Socks:** short fold over socks (not low cut style)

Students are required to wear correct uniform at all times according to our uniform code.

**Parents are asked to support the uniform policy by ensuring that students leave home in the correct school uniform. If you are unsure as to what the correct uniform is for your child, please view the uniform display page on the school website.**

**Athletes Foot Karratha** Some of you may have missed their visit last year:  
Will temporarily be at South Hedland shopping Centre from next week 2nd of May.

Due to limited space most shoes being brought up are Sketches; Nikes and general running and sports footwear. They will bring samples of all school shoes and will be happy to measure up and take orders for any school shoes which they can access form Karratha stock on a 2-3 day turn around. If all goes well they should be at South Hedland for several weeks during May.

Mrs Mandy Sheen  
Assistant Principal

**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

April

10 SHEEN, Talitha Y4  
13 WELLBELOVED, Luke K  
20 PUERTOLLANO, Aimee Y1  
21 GONZALEZ, Mia Y1  
23 KAHONDO, Izwirashe PP  
24 WADE, Amy Y4  
24 FOTI, Scarlett Y5  
25 WILLIAMS, Keanna Y5  
26 DOYLE, Zaina Y4  
29 KIRBY, Layne Y2
COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The Department of Sport and Recreation, in partnership with the Town of Port Hedland, is making sport and recreation more accessible by providing funding for children to join sporting clubs. KidSport enables eligible Western Australian children aged 5–18 years to participate in community sport and recreation by offering them financial assistance of up to $200 towards club fees, and where applicable, uniforms and equipment. The fees go directly from the Town of Port Hedland to the registered KidSport clubs participating in the initiative. While the primary objective of KidSport is to ensure all Western Australian children can participate in club sport and recreation, its secondary objective is to engage these children and their families in the community. Most junior winter sports are now taking registrations for the 2016 season, so now is the time for families to apply for their children. For more information on KidSport please visit the Town of Port Hedland website - www.porthedland.wa.gov.au/kidsport-program.aspx, email cpdo@porthedland.wa.gov.au or phone 9158 9689. Also a recent media release from the Minister for Water, Sport and Recreation, Forestry that you may wish to read...

10,000 Aboriginal kids active through KidSport Latest statistics show that Aboriginal children now make up one in five KidSport participants who are playing sport and involved in a club in Western Australia. Sport and Recreation Minister Mia Davies today announced more than 10,000 Aboriginal children had now joined a sport or recreation club thanks to the State Government’s program, which offered $200 vouchers to pay for club fees. $2.33 million investment so far to help Aboriginal kids join a sporting club. Click the link above for the full media statement.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE BACK AT SCHOOL BY: Tuesday 10 May Sorry no late orders
EXPAND YOUR WORLD

Capture the spirit of fun and friendship in your own backyard! Department of Education-approved Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is pleased to provide a different educational and cultural experience for you and your family. Don’t miss the invaluable opportunity to learn about your favourite foreign culture, and even improve your language’s score.

Our volunteer families come in different sizes but all have big hearts in choosing to share their daily life and culture with an international exchange student. Volunteer families are more than wonderful hosts. They are a crucial part of S.C.C.E.’s tireless award-winning efforts to embrace our world through international cultural understanding and help put Australian culture on the map. Their voluntary accommodating of a 15-17 year old sporty, adaptable and nature-loving young individual brings with it unexpected rewards as the opportunity offers everyone a unique experience, to learn, gain and adjust.

Exchange students will be arriving soon in mid-July. Select your choice of a French, German, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, Finnish, Danish or Norwegian student and according to your family’s availability. S.C.C.E. takes care of all the arrangements including school.

Call 1800 500 501 (toll-free)
Email: scceaustralia@scce.com.au
Web: www.scce.com.au

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: ____________________________
Year 5 Term 2 2016

In Week 3 of Term 2 (Tuesday 10th May – Thursday 12th May), Year 5 are undergoing four NAPLAN tests in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (Literacy) and Numeracy (Maths).

We have talked about the processes involved in the tests and learnt that they are not a true measure of how intelligent you are, nor are they a real measure are what you are capable of. Adding to this, we also have learnt that the results of NAPLAN do not effect if you pass the year or not.

We know that everyone gets stressed during tests and exams. Even the people who say that they don’t. Look around in a room where people are doing a test or exam and those people who are yawning, looking bored or stretching and looking as cool as cucumbers, are stressed.

As we approach Week 3 our focus has been on learning and understanding the processes involved in reaching the answers. We know that everyone will be tested throughout their time at school and by being calm in our approach, then this will only serve to help with our coping skills.

In finishing, this message is to the Students, Parents and Staff at St Cecilia’s. Year 5 would like everyone to be aware that while we face demands in our everyday life, we can be more resilient in overcoming these difficulties by using our own strengths and asking those who care for us to ‘lend a hand’.
Stay tuned for the upcoming

**Dad's**

(or Uncles/Grandfathers/Guardians)

and **kids**

campout!!!

taking place on the school oval later this term.

If you don’t have your own tent or swags, start thinking about who you might be able to borrow one from for this exciting event!

If you are interested in what will be happening around the school this year, please come along to a meeting and share your ideas. Not only do we discuss fundraising opportunities for the school, we also organise community building events for our children and families. This is a fun and easy way to get involved in the school community. No pressure – ever!

Next Meeting

**Wed 11 May, 7pm - School Library**

Casual attendance welcome

Ideas or suggestions to the Committee
stcecilia_pandf@outlook.com