FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our Year Six and Year Seven students have just returned from a fabulous week at camp. The reports from the students have all been fantastic, indicating a very successful camp. The staff have also ‘sung the praises’ of the students for the manner in which they participated at camp.

I would like to publicly thank the staff involved in the Y6/7 camp. I know only too well, how much time and effort goes into the organisation and planning to ensure that the camp is a safe and enjoyable experience for all. The time and energy required while on camp with all staff being on duty 24 hours a day is also a huge commitment. I would also like to thank Mrs Trish Van Den Hurk and Mrs Nikki Boyd, parents who volunteered to attend the camp. Without their support, it would be impossible to run our camp program.

Unfortunately nowadays, in our litigious society, public liability issues, many schools are withdrawing from camps and excursion programs, as staff are reluctant to take on this responsibility with the legal liability. While camp programs are not mandatory for schools, they have become part of the fabric of what a school offers. Staff know the enormous educational and social benefits that can be derived from camps. We are fortunate at St Cecilia’s to have a staff that is committed to our camping program.

I am like an olive tree
Flourishing in the house of God.
I trust in God’s unfailing love
forever and ever.

Psalm 52:8

The Lord gives strength to His people;
The Lord blesses His people with peace.

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.

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

COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER
Pilbara Music Festival
Final Concert

TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER
First Reconciliation
6.00pm @ St Cecilia’s Church

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
Year 2 Assembly

FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
Photo Competition Voting Night
6pm @ St Cecilia’s Hall

THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER
Year 7 Assembly

FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER
Canteen Closed
Last Day of Term 3
Portfolio’s go home

MONDAY 17 OCTOBER
NO SCHOOL
STAFF PD

TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER
Students return
First Day Term 4
I was delighted with the way our Year Five students took up the challenge to lead our school in the absence of the Year Six & Year Seven students. They were quick to take up the duties of our older students and worked as a team to make sure that all leadership roles were fulfilled. Congratulations on a wonderful week!

**Lightening Carnival**
On Friday 2 September a number of our Year Four and Five students volunteered to participate in the Lightening Carnival in the absence of our senior students. They did a sterling job and showed great sportsmanship throughout the carnival. They represented the school in netball, soccer and cricket having a wonderful time. Congratulations to all those who participated on the day!

**School Choir**
Our School choir is made up of students from Year Two to Year Seven. They have been busily learning two new songs, Enjoy the Storm and Brave the Elements. They are awesome to listen to and are learning part singing as well as harmony. We look forward to hearing them sing at the Excellence Awards on Friday 23 September. A note has been sent out informing parents of the details.

**Science Week**
Last week our students from Kindergarten to Year Seven were involved in scientific experiments under the direct supervision of Professor Dunlop. The Professor spent many hours working out fun and amazing experiments suitable for the different age groups. The Students got right in to the role of mad scientists and let their imaginations go wild. We are so fortunate to have such wonderful staff like Miss Jessica McIntyre to help lead our students in science investigations.

**Kindergarten and Pre-Primary Sports Day**
Last Friday saw our sensational Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students take to the field and wow us with their sporting skills. The students really gave it there all and showed us just how to run a race including the egg and spoon race, the sack race and the flag race. They finished off with a wonderful relay. We certainly could see a lot of talent in the younger ones. I think even our Mums and Dads had an awesome time. There was a lot of fun when we added in the three legged race for parents and students. Congratulations to both Mrs Kay and Miss Russell together with their team of helpers in organising this wonderful event that was enjoyed by so many. Thank you to all the staff who came down to help with setting up the tents and for our wonderful parents who helped put them away. Also thank you to Ms Tait for manning the microphone and Mr Sta Maria for keeping the music flowing. It truly was a wonderful day.

**Year Two Mass**
What a beautiful and reverent experience we shared on Sunday at our Year Two Sunday Mass. We were lead in prayer by one of our younger classes. The students were so beautifully prepared and they were just outstanding in the way they lead us in this celebration. Thank you to Ms Tait and her class for their memorable Mass. Thank you also to Miss Campbell for the amazing power point presentation. Outstanding work everyone!

**Pilbara Music Festival**
This week we have taken many of our students perform in the Pilbara Music Festival. We have seen choirs, recorder groups, guitar ensembles and even those who were brave enough to play the piano or sing. I would like to congratulate all our talented students on their fabulous performances. I know that St Cecilia would be smiling in heaven this week.

**Year Four Assembly**
I would like to congratulate Mrs Amanda Sheen and her Fabulous Year Four Class for their wonderful assembly last week. They certainly taught us a lot about the inventions of the past and even gave us a sneak preview into the present and beyond. They really did share a lot of information and in such a creative way, well done!

**Vision and Learning**
Understanding the connection between vision and learning abilities can avoid years of frustration and under-performance. Tests of the development of visual abilities may expose a removable ‘roadblock’ that interferes with learning, and give your child the chance to reach their full potential. The message is simple: children’s vision problems should be detected or prevented before they affect academic performance.

Vision is basic to learning and research shows
that some visual problems correlate with poor academic achievement. It is easy to see why vision involves the mental act of placement in space, form, distance, colour, control of speed and direction of movement.

Visual problems in learning to read can include the following:
1. Slow learning to match colour, number and/or letters to names.
2. Poor handwriting skills.
3. Reversals or rotations of letters or numbers. eg. b/d, 13/31, was/saw.
4. Movement of the head, losing place often or needing a finger to track.
5. Short attention span on close visual tasks.

Visual problems in reading to learn can include the following:
1. Complaints of blurred vision, headaches and eye-strain after time spent reading.
2. Complaints of words moving, doubling or dancing on the page.
3. Skipping or re-reading words or lines of text.
4. Fatigue makes keeping the ‘place’ in a text harder.
5. Poor reading comprehension.
   Avoidance of ‘up close’ activities.

A child who has a learning-related vision problem can usually learn more easily, or can apply themselves more effectively, after appropriate treatment for their functional vision problem. In the first instance, if you suspect that your child may have a vision problem, please speak to your child’s teacher. Their observations will generally be able to confirm whether you may need to seek the assessment of an optometrist.

God Bless and keep smiling

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

PARISH NEWS
WEEKEND MASS TIMES
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
Saturday 7.15pm
Sunday 10.00am
ST CECILIA’S PARISH
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 8.30am
Mon-Fri 8.00am Morning Prayer & Mass

CONDOLENCES
During the week we were sad to hear of the loss to the Healey/Gobel family of a beloved Mother and Grandmother. We will keep Sonja, Richard, Francheska, Max & Courtney in our prayers and know that our thoughts and love are with you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Sacrament of First Reconciliation
The Sacrament of First Reconciliation is fast approaching! Next Tuesday night the children making this special sacrament for the first time will gather in St Cecilia’s Church (Port Hedland) at 5:45pm for a 6pm start. Thank you to Mrs Tesar, Mrs Riches and Mrs Felsner for all the work you have done with the students preparing for this sacrament.

Year Two Class Mass
Thank you to our fabulous Year Two class and Mrs Tait for all the effort you put into making the Mass on Sunday so special. It was a delight to share in the Eucharistic celebration with you all. You were very reverent and respectful in God’s house, and it was wonderful to see your little faces so lit up with joy!

Catholic Education Week Mass
This morning we celebrated Catholic Education Week with a special Eucharistic celebration. During Catholic Education Week we take the time to celebrate Catholic Schools in Western Australia and all the exciting things that take place in our schools. Thank you to our wonderful Year Five, Six and Seven students who assisted at our Catholic Education Week Mass this morning. Your efforts, as always are very much appreciated and you should be proud of the mature and respectful way you go about what is asked of you.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal Religious Education

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS
Library News
A very special thank you to our amazing mums for volunteering to cover our wonderful new library books! Your hard work is greatly appreciated, and without your help it would take a LOT longer to get our exciting new books on the shelves.

Also a special thank you to Ms MacKenzie for all our new books and library shelves!

Coles Sports for Schools
Congratulations to all our wonderful families who have been shopping at Coles and collecting vouchers! At the last count we had 17,310 vouchers! An amazing effort. Keep up the good work as there are still a few more weeks to collect the vouchers.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
When I checked the website today I was amazed to see that we have collected 7,492 earn and learn points so far. The Earn and Learn competition has been extended for a couple more weeks so keep bringing in your Woolworths dockets! Well done everyone!

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal
**ABSENTEEISM**

As of Monday 12 September we introduced a new procedure for recording students absences. Teachers will advise the office by 9.00am each morning of any absent students. Any unexplained absences will be followed up with a phone call to parent/guardians by the School Secretary. Parents are asked to call the school office prior to 9.00am each day of their child’s absence to avoid a phone call being made to them. All absences need to be notified by a parent or guardian (not a sibling, neighbour etc). Parents are to follow up all absences with a written explanation note as soon as possible to class teachers.

**FRIDAY FIN & GRINS**

From Term Four, unless we are able to get regular volunteers on Friday mornings between 9am and 12pm, we will unfortunately have to cease serving our popular Fins & Grins.

Please see Cathy our Canteen Manageress if you can assist. Any offers of assistance would be appreciated. Sorry but children cannot accompany canteen volunteers.

Thank you.

**MERIT AWARDS**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>KG</th>
<th>PP</th>
<th>Yr 1</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Rohan Aspland</td>
<td>Nat Cornelius</td>
<td>Toby Hunter</td>
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<td>Hollie Del Singnore</td>
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<td>Yr 1: Toby Hunter</td>
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<td>Piper McDonald</td>
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<td>Xennex Holmstrom</td>
<td>Katna Cox</td>
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<td>Yr 7: Year Seven Class</td>
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**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

**SEPTEMBER**

7 DEL SIGNORE, Hollie K
8 VAN RYSINGE, Ida Y3
12 PERERA, Menushi Y3
13 HUNTER, Riley Y2
13 McCORRY, Celeste Y6
15 BRITCLIFFE, Zoe Y4
16 SELFIE, Patrick Y6
17 SUTHERS, Jackson K
18 GUPTA, Ashima Y3

**ANNUAL EQUIPMENT CATALOGUES**

~ Parent Direct, Chalk & Toys N More ~

*In the office we have 3 types of equipment catalogues. Please take one of each catalogue. The school receives 20% of all sales, These funds are used to purchase educational equipment for the school. *Sorry no cash payments Cheque, Money orders or Credit Card payments only Orders close:*  

**Wednesday 21 September 2011**

**FATHERS DAY RAFFLE RESULTS**

The P&F held a free Father’s Day raffle – every student’s name went in to the draw. The winners were:

1st prize – Ruby Connor  
2nd prize – Kohi Poharama  
3rd prize – Taiha Browne

A massive thank you to **Unicorn Cleaning** for the donation of our first prize – a voucher for a 3 hour garden cleanup!

**BATTERY RECYCLING**

The Town of Port Hedland and Care for Hedland have commenced the domestic battery recycling program. A battery recycling Bin has been set up in the front office. Type of batteries include: Primary (Single Use) eg: AAA, AA, C, D etc and Secondary (Rechargeable). Please note we are not collecting car batteries.
COMMUNITY NEWS

VAC SWIM INSTRUCTORS NEEDED
We are currently trying to find staff to teach in Port Hedland for this year's October VacSwim program. If there are any AustSwim or Bronze medallion qualified staff who would be available to teach for the two weeks or even 1 week, it would be a tremendous help. As at this stage we do not have any teachers available.
The dates are 3/10/11 to 14/10/11 and the lesson times are from 8.30am to 11.45am.
The pay rate is $24.76 per hour.
Regards Sandra McLernon - VacSwim Staffing Coordinator - Country Swimming and Water Safety Department of Education
Phone: 9344 0955, Fax: 9344 0900
Email: sandra.mclernon@det.wa.edu.au

VACSWIM HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
It is vitally important every child learns to swim properly and develops essential water safety skills. Your child will benefit from taking part in VacSwim with qualified instructors who will teach them all the necessary skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water.
Enrol in VacSwim October and December/January programs now: For further information and to enrol visit: W: det.wa.edu.au

CENTRE FOR PARISH LIFE AND MISSION, RESOURCE LIBRARY GERALDTON AND CATHOLIC LIBRARY OF WA, YOUR LIBRARY RESOURCE PERTH
We aim to provide a range of resources to support the Catholic community; including:
• Family and Parenting incl. family friendly dvd’s
• Personal Development (life, love and loss)
• Scripture studies
• Spirituality, meditation and prayer
• Reception of the Sacraments (incl. RCIA)
There are also many other resources for priests and parish workers including: Catechists, Parish Council, Liturgy Committee, Music Ministry and Prayer Groups.
Contacts: Perth: Catholic Library (ph) 6380 5372 or email: catholic.library@ceo.wa.edu.au
OR Geraldton: The Centre for Parish Life & Mission Geraldton (ph) 08 99642716 or email libraryplm@westnet.com.au

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
A Weekend of Discovery….a lifetime of love. A Marriage Encounter weekend can rekindle the sparks you felt on your wedding day! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, children, chores and phones – and focus only on each other. If you’d like greater depth, growth and enrichment in your relationship, you’ll like the difference a Marriage Encounter Weekend can make.
2011 Weekend Date: 4-6 November Swan Valley
For Bookings/details contact: 0424 220 625 - Joe & Margaret or
Email: WAbookings@wwme.org.au
Information: Website – www.wwme.org.au

CANTEEN CLOSED
The Canteen will be closed on The last day of Term Three Friday 30 September.
All students will need to supply their own recess and lunch on this day.

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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

Signed: ______________________________________
Getting ready for our big day
Kindy Sports Day
GREAT FAMILY NIGHT OUT
on
Friday 23rd September at 6pm
in the school hall,
with
Perth magician and entertainer - Hey Presto!
Great door and raffle prizes to be won.
Finger Food provided.
Refreshments available for sale.

Join in and VOTE
for your favourite photograph
at the Social VOTING NIGHT

Vote for your favourite photo – the 12 photos with the most votes (50c per vote) will be included in the 2012 calendar.

Friday 23rd September – not just a great night of choosing your favourite photos for the 2012 calendar, but a great night of family entertainment. Come along to be entertained by Hey Presto! - A magician and performer from Perth – it is sure to be a great night of family fun – don’t miss it!

Helpers are needed to make this a success – please email mitchjr@bigpond.com or phone 0417 181 618 Rhonda if you can help with the night. We need helpers during the day to set up, and many hands on deck for the actual night. If you have never helped before, don’t be shy – this is your big chance to help the P&F and have fun doing it! If you have your RSA we would especially love your help on the night, please call Rhonda.

Next P&F Meeting: Monday 31st October, 7pm in the staff room.