St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School
35 Sutherland Street
PO Box 700
Port Hedland, WA, 6721
Tel: 08 9173 2162
Fax: 08 9173 2877
Email: admin@stcecilia.wa.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians

It has been a great start to the term and the students have settled back into the school routine very smoothly. We would like to welcome Miss Dee Campbell as our Year One Teacher for the remainder of the year. Dee has taken over from Mrs Kirsty Hocking, who has joined her husband in Canada. We hope that Dee will feel part of the school quickly and I know that we all wish her a warm welcome to St Cecilia’s. Not only is it a time of staff changes but we have also seen a number of our families leave and wish them well with their future. We would also like to welcome a number of new families into our community and hope that they feel part of our school very quickly indeed.

We are very fortunate to be part of the wonderful Hedland community. We had a very successful fete last term and everyone I have spoken to had a sensational time. Through the hard work of our P&F and the help of our wonderful parents we now have the funds to establish our Computer Lab. This week the P&F were able to donate to the school $50,000.

We have an amazing group of dedicated people who can make anything happen. Thank you once again for all your hard work and commitment in providing a wonderful asset to our school which will assist our students in so many ways.

I would also like to thank Mr Shane Giles, who kindly donated the laptop he won in our raffle, back to the school. The laptop will be used in conjunction with the hall’s data projector. Thank you so much Shane! We appreciate your generosity.

School Uniform

I am a strong advocate for the wearing of school uniforms which look fantastic. We have received many positive comments about our uniforms. It is great that nearly all our students are able to wear their full school uniform every day. There are enormous benefits for ensuring all students wear the full school uniform. These include:

- Defining our school identity.
- Developing within our students a sense of belonging to our school community.
- Providing an opportunity to build and enhance ‘school spirit’.
- Promoting a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity.
- Enhancing the health and safety of

Accompanying this newsletter:

- Term 3 Planner
- P&F Update
- Vac Swim Program

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.
Mrs Poharama.

Thank you once again for organising this event in our traditions and cultures. It is also a celebration of the uniqueness of Indigenous, and even International level. NAIDOC promotes the rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage to all people on a regional, national, and even International level. It is also a celebration of the uniqueness of Indigenous traditions and cultures.

While we appreciate that there are times when students will be out of uniform, it appears we have a small number of students ‘electing’ not to wear their full uniform. I have noticed in particular students wearing different sport shorts. This is to cease. Please refrain from sending children to school with coloured hair bands and hair ties that are not in the school colours. These should be green or black only.

It is compulsory for student from Year One to Year Seven to have a St Cecilia’s school bag. When you chose to send your child to St Cecilia’s you agreed to abide by the rules set in the Parent Information Booklet regarding the Uniform Policy. For any reason a child is not able to wear the full correct school uniform, under our current Uniform Policy, parents must provide a written explanation and rectify the situation as quickly as possible. If you are experiencing difficulty please make an appointment to see me.

It has also come to my attention that after school many students are changing into dance outfits instead of remaining in their school uniform including school shoes until they reach their destination. I would like to remind students that they must remain in their full school uniform while at school, if there is a need to be in dance uniform this must be worn under the school uniform.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Year Six Assembly

What an amazing Assembly and Liturgy of the Word we experienced in the celebration of NAIDOC week and the unsung heroes. Mrs Poharama and the sensational Year Six class really made the NAIDOC week meaningful and gave a beautiful reverence to the day. We had many parents join us for this Liturgy making it a very special day.

Mrs Poharama and the Year Six class always put a lot of thought into their presentations so thank you so much for sharing your talents with us. During the day the students also had a chance to visit other classrooms and join in with a host of activities to celebrate NAIDOC.

NAIDOC promotes the rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage to all people on a regional, national, and even International level. It is also a celebration of the uniqueness of Indigenous traditions and cultures.

Thank you once again for organising this event Mrs Poharama.

Year Four Assembly

We are all looking forward to being dazzled by Mr Sta Maria and the fantastic Year Four class when they lead our assembly next week. They amazed us last term with their Star Trek item and we can’t wait to see what awaits us.

Deaf Awareness

This week we had a visit from Susan Bates and Geoffrey Scott who represent the Catholic Deaf Ministry. Susan and Geoffrey visited a number of classes and spoke to the students about what it is like to be deaf or hearing impaired. They taught the students some valuable lessons as well as sharing sign language with them.

Music Auditions

This week has seen our students stepping up for auditions to be in the end of year musical. All students are part of the musical but at this time we invited those students who were keen to take on leading roles. On Tuesday the Kindergarten to Year Three students took to the stage and I would like to thank all of them for coming down to the hall and trying out. You were sensational! If you are not chosen this year please do not be disappointed as I appreciate everyone who tried out. Students will be advised this week of their success and given their scripts to begin practicing. Today the Year Four to Year Seven students had a chance to audition and they will be advised of their results on Friday. Once again thank you for trying out, I appreciate your enthusiasm!

Bus Lines

While students are waiting for the bus in the afternoon we ask that they do not eat anything. We are finding many students are not eating their lunch, but waiting until school has finished. Some students are also choosing to eat on the bus and leave a mess behind. In future there will be no eating in line or on the bus. It is important for students to eat their lunch at the correct time. We also need to respect the wishes of the bus company.

St Cecilia’s Year Book

This year as a school we would like to print a St Cecilia’s 2010 Year Book in colour. This will include your child’s photo together with a snapshot of the numerous events that have occurred throughout the school year. You will notice that on the Semester Two (Terms 3 & 4) school fees there will be an additional charge for the Year Book. Each family will receive one Year Book, however you will be able to pay for and order additional Year Books.

Professional Development for Staff

A number of our staff will be attending Professional Development next weekend so as not to disrupt school. I thank them for their willingness to take on new information in their own time and wish them a very successful PD.
Why Student Attendance Is Important

Students who stay in education for longer have better educational, occupational and social outcomes. Being at school is one of the best investments young people can make for their future. Regular attendance at school is fundamental to student learning. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve educational success and increase their career and life options.

It is not only students who benefit from regular attendance. Teachers, parents, caregivers and the wider community all benefit when students are attending school and achieving. These benefits include greater student safety, community well-being and a sense of connectedness for all.

Our school, families and community can work together to send a strong collective message about the importance of going to school; student attendance must be a priority.

It is important for all students to be at school every day. A child should be at school unless:

- The child is too sick to leave the house. Generally, if a child is not sick enough to need to see a doctor, then he or she should be at school.
- The child has an infectious disease like measles, chicken pox or mumps.
- The child has an injury preventing movement around school.
- The child teacher is provided with any genuine and acceptable reason preventing the child's attendance.

**ABSENCE NOTES - PLEASE!**

School attendance rolls are legal documents, and under Australian law schools must account for student absences. If your child is absent for whatever reason, the school requires a written note indicating the date and reason for the absence. We appreciate your support in allowing us to fulfil our legal requirements.

It would be appreciated if you call the school the day your child is absent, however we still require a note for the attendance register.

Remember:

- If students miss the basic skills in the early years of schooling they often experience learning difficulties later on.
- There is a direct link between attendance and achievement.
- It has been shown that poor patterns of attendance in the early years can lead to poor patterns of attendance throughout the latter school years.
- Poor attendance makes it difficult for students to form positive friendships with their peers.

Primary to Secondary School Transition

Can you remember when you started secondary school? If you were like most people, you probably felt a mixture of emotions. Sadness because leaving primary school signified the end of a terrific era, and excitement in the prospect of secondary school and the new experiences on offer. For most adolescents, starting secondary school is a positive time, although some students may experience a little anxiety about attending a different, larger school with more students and more specialist facilities. Secondary school also involves new and unfamiliar organisational arrangements to those they are used to from primary school. Being the youngest students, adjusting to the different ‘culture’, changing classrooms for each subject, reading a timetable, altering eating habits and carrying books around is difficult enough without the added task of making new friends.

Some children take these new experiences in their stride, but it is natural to have some difficulty making the transition from primary to secondary school. The transition also occurs at a time when there is a great deal of change in a child’s life. Children at this stage feel the need to belong and be accepted by their peers; they are at different stages of physical maturity, often self-conscious and subject to mood swings.

At Hedland Senior High School they have initiated a new transition program that is designed to help your children fit into the secondary school life. Here are some practical suggestions that parents can use to help make the transition to secondary education happy and successful.

**Be prepared:**

The transition process is much easier when students are prepared for secondary school. Having the correct books and uniform is important on the first day. Blending in rather than standing apart is their main aim in the early days.

**Be supportive:**

Talk to your child about change and reassure him or her that it is normal to feel unsure and anxious in new circumstances. Some children may brush you off with a “She’ll be right” attitude but don’t be fooled by the bravado. Most will be feeling fairly unsure of themselves. Show confidence in their ability to cope; confidence is catching.

**Communicate with the school:**

Contact the year-level co-ordinator if you have concerns about how he or she is settling. If it is your eldest who is starting, then secondary school will be relatively new for you too. It will take time for you to adjust to the school’s culture and communication methods. You can learn a lot about the school by talking with your child and encouraging him or her to share their experiences.
Is Your Child Getting Enough Sleep?

Just like adults, children and teenagers may need more or less sleep than their friends. Children aged 6-9 years need about ten to eleven hours of sleep a night; once they reach the age of 10-12 years, they will need about nine to ten hours of sleep and as an adolescent they will need between eight and nine hours of sleep. Of course, there will be times in their lives when they need much more than this: recovering from an illness, a day in the sun, a particularly active day, a party, a late night etc.

It is easy to recognise the signs of overtiredness or lack of sleep in others; irritability, short-temper, emotional, limited concentration, frequent blinking and yawning, general lack of energy and a tendency to rub the eyes. If your child is suffering from sleep deprivation it can affect their performance at school. They will have difficulty retaining new information and will struggle to complete the simplest of tasks. They will ‘tune out’ when instructions are given and spend a great deal of time ‘day dreaming’ instead of doing their work. This can cause them to fall behind in their work and sometimes be asked to complete it in their own time.

Sleep deprivation can add up over time; an hour less each night can equal a whole night by the end of a fortnight. Help your child by establishing regular bedtime routines and sleep patterns. There is no one way to help your child become a good sleeper, but every child can become a better sleeper with the right support.

Public Holiday

Please keep in mind that Monday 2 August is a Public Holiday for Hedland, it is in fact Hedland Cup Day so have a wonderful day and enjoy.

God Bless

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

FACTS ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION

FUNDING OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- No child is ever denied a Catholic education because of their family’s financial situation.
- On average, Catholic schools operate at about 85% of the resourcing level of government schools, even when parent contributions are taken into account.

AVERAGE RESOURCING LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS</th>
<th>AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS</th>
<th>*National Report on Schooling 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State and federal funding
Federal funding
State funding
Parent contributions

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DO MORE WITH LESS

Catholic schools have been providing a quality education for Australian children for over 180 years.

There are 1700 Catholic schools in Australia, with an enrolment of almost 704,000 students. One in five Australian school students are educated in a Catholic school.

In the upcoming funding debate and the Federal Election it is important to know this essential fact: When all forms of government funding are considered (that is, both federal and state), Catholic school students receive substantially less funding per student than government school students.

As parents, teachers, students and friends of the Catholic schools sector, you are aware that some of this gap is made up by contributions from parents and parishes through fees and levies. However, Catholic schools strive to keep fees low so that schools remain accessible to all.

No child is ever denied a Catholic education because of their family’s financial situation. Even when parent contributions are taken into account, on average, Catholic schools operate at about 85 per cent of the resourcing level of government schools.

Any claims that Catholic schools get more government funding than public schools are transparently wrong and should be challenged.
We will be celebrating the ‘Feast of Transfiguration’ next Friday, 6 August at 8.45am. This feast had its origin in the East in the fourth century as the commemoration of the dedication of the church of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor. It was observed in the West from the eighth century and extended to the entire Western Church in the fifteenth century. The feast celebrates the divine radiance shining in Christ’s human flesh and God’s glory shining forth in the lives of Christians.

Please come and join us in celebrating this very special feast day.

On Wednesday, 21 June we held our second Confirmation meeting in the school hall. The evening was Spirit filled with lots of positive energy and emotion.

Thank you to all the parents and students for making the evening a very special one. Information about the retreat will be sent home shortly.

Thank you also to our Sacramental Team for their enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile for our students.

Mrs Ramshaw
Assistant Principal Religious Education

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week in Week Four is fast approaching. This is an exciting time and will hopefully result in a lot of new resources for the school library.

Any parent/friend of the school who is able to offer help in the library, e.g. an hour or so for library maintenance or covering new books, please make yourself known to Ms Tait.

Thank you.

Ms Tait
Library Teacher

MERIT AWARDS

02 July 2010
Yr 1: Brendon Cowley  Takudzwa Hunya
Nyomi Kelly   Charlotte Jonckhere
Kimberley Morton  Ella Smith
Ali Wilson
Yr 2: Tahlia Cotton   Lucy McGrath
Ruby Moore
Yr 4: Ruby Connor   Elyse Phillips
Destiny Liddell-Tewano
Yr 5: Celeste McCorry  Kiralee Vrancic
Yr 7: Ethan Britton  Renee Buckland
Kevin Phillips

23 July 2010
KG: Ulaani Bellette  Joice Damian
Brandon Lodge  Benjamin Rettallack
PP: Tyler Akerman  Jackson Gould
Wayne McNicol  Reece Pedley
Yr 1: Chanelle Dershow  Declan Rahman
Yr 2: Nikita Burton
Yr 4: Breanna Bolton
Yr 5: Galgalu Badolicha  Josie Cecich
Yr 6: Baze Nematollahi  Nacona Tucker
Kelly Zaccheus

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

20 Jul  Branden Greipel (Year Three)
22 Jul  Helen Nawn (Year Two)
24 Jul  Elyse Phillips (Year Four)
25 Jul  Saransh Mohanty (Year Three)
26 Jul  Takudzwa Hunya (Year One)
28 Jul  Emmalene Cavey (Year Four)
29 Jul  Kayala Decourcy (Year One)
29 Jul  Ethan Britton (Year Seven)
30 Jul  Samual Waters (Kindergarten)
01 Aug  Pierce McLean (Pre-Primary)
This year, the Year Seven students have had Pre-Primary buddies. They have enjoyed reading and playing with the younger students, helping them participate in various school activities and ensuring their early experiences of school are positive and memorable. The Year Seven students thrive on the extra responsibility, and welcome the chance to relax, spend time with their young friends and have a break from Year Seven work!

Year Seven Reflections on Buddies...

“I like buddies because they have an everlasting amount of energy!” Keau

“My buddy, Cullen, is amazing! He’s full of energy and he’s always happy. I really enjoy hanging out with Cullen. He’s an awesome little guy!” Fiona

“I like buddies because it is fun to be with them and they are cool!” Austin

“I love buddies because it’s fun to play with them and my friends. My buddy is awesome!” Griffin

“I love buddies because it is different from talking to Year Seven students. Buddies are awesome!” Dylan
"I love buddies because they make me laugh and we have fun." David

"I like buddies because spending time with them makes me remember when I was little and they’re awesome! Thanks for being a great buddy, Nicky!" Kevin

"I like having a little buddy to play with. Having a buddy could teach me how to be a role model to my brothers." Kaleb

"I like chilling with my little buddy because he’s an awesome little kid and I like being little again!" Mitchell

"I like buddies because they are very fun and so cute!" Chelsea

"I like buddies because my buddy is cute and she is a heap of fun!" Elise

"I love having buddies! My buddy is so cute! Thank you so much, Tyler, for being such a wonderful buddy!" Shani

"I love buddies because we get to do things that we don’t normally do, instead of MATHS! I love seeing the smiles on their faces and how they look up to you!" Renee

"I like buddies because we get to do little kid’s activities!" Holly

"My buddy is so energetic that she makes me tired! Now I know how my parents felt when I was younger! I love buddies and it’s also a good workout!" Gerry

"I love hanging out with buddies. I think my buddy is really awesome. It is great doing little kid’s things!" Jacob

"Having buddies is a great experience because it allows me to be a kid and it’s fun!" Shania

"I love buddies because it gives us an opportunity to stop Year Seven work and see what they do during their days and because they’re cute!!! Thanks for the fun Receel!" Madi

"I like buddies because we can get away with doing kiddy things, plus my buddy is AWESOME!!!" Keri

"I love buddies because I hang out with an awesome little dude. We have a lot of fun together." Zach

"I love buddies because it is so much fun to spend time with little kids, being an only child. I love buddies heaps, thanks Toby!" Emily

"I like buddies because I love looking down and seeing my buddies caring face smiling the whole time! Keep smiling Rianan!" Alicia

"I love buddies and always want to stay for a longer time with them – but we can always return another day! Thanks Wayne." Alexis

"I enjoy buddies because it’s a really fun afternoon that we get to spend with some cool buddies!" Josh

"Buddies are awesome because it’s fun to do different things." Craig
COMMUNITY NEWS

WANTED! Interested parents who wish to voice their opinions on the following topics:
- The role of parents in Catholic schools,
- The cost of books, uniforms and other levies,
- NAPLAN/My School Website, and Information sharing on the PFFWA election strategy for increased funding in Catholic schools.

The Parents and Friends Federation of WA are hosting a professionally facilitated Open Forum to formulate positions that will be used to inform the CEO, media and other organisations on what parents of children in Catholic schools think.

The Forum will run from 7.30pm – 9.30pm next Wednesday 28 July at 101 Wood St, Inglewood. Please RSVP to admin@pff.wa.edu.au or ring 9271 5909 by 4.00pm Monday 26th July.

PFFWA UPDATE— Due to many of our parents being involved in meetings with Politicians with regards to the Federal Election Strategy for funding in Catholic schools we have decided to put the Position Paper night back to September with the date to be confirmed. We apologise for any inconvenience and look forward to seeing you at that night for your input on positions as advertised last week. Don’t forget to support your school initiatives around securing sustainable funding for catholic schools. Also, please join our new Facebook page which we update on a daily basis with the latest news and information from your PFFWA.

ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE CONSENT

St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School’s fortnightly newsletters and class notes are available by electronic means (thereby reducing costs and helping the environment at the same time).

If you are happy to receive the newsletter/school notices via this method, please indicate your acceptance below:

Yes I would like to receive the newsletter/school notices by email.

Family Name: ___________________________________________________
Email Address: ___________________________________________________
Students Name: ___________________________________ Year Level: ____
Students Name: ___________________________________ Year Level: ____
Students Name: ___________________________________ Year Level: ____
Students Name: ___________________________________ Year Level: ____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE ASAP