Dear Parents and Guardians

Today we welcome Bishop Justin to St Cecilia’s; the Bishop has come to celebrate Confirmation in Port and South Hedland over the next two weekends. The Bishop loves to visit our school and Parishes and we always enjoy the time he spends with us.

As our students prepare for Confirmation we look closely at the graces that the Spirit brings to those being Confirmed. It is a time when we can see the Spirit working in our lives, helping us. Confirmation is a rite of initiation, carried out through the laying on of hands and prayer, and anointing with Chrism, for the purpose of bestowing the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation is seen as the affirmation and sealing of the covenant made in Holy Baptism.

On Friday 20 August we are holding an evening in the hall to welcome the Bishop to the St Cecilia’s Parish and School. All parents are invited to come and talk with the Bishop together with Father Mark over nibbles and drinks. The evening will begin at 6.30pm and we hope that many of our families will take the opportunity to meet with Bishop Justin and have a chat. Some of our students will also be performing for us on the evening.

Wishes

You will find as you look back upon your life that the moments when you have truly lived are the moments when you have done things in the spirit of love.
Henry Drummond

Where there is great love, there are always wishes.
Willa Cather
Book Week
What an incredible time we have had at school this week with the launch of Book Week. The staff and students were busily creating work to display in their classrooms and the library. Thanks to some wonderful parents and staff the library has come alive over the weekend and taken on the theme of “Around the World”. Thank you so much to the P&F with the wonderful direction of Tanya McGrath and Jodie Tait. The library is buzzing with a fantastic selection of books for parents to buy for their children or to donate to the school. The library was open on Monday evening for parents to take the time to look and select books for their children. Thank you to Mrs Comery for the donation of cheese platters for the evening.

Today saw our students and staff featuring some amazing costumes as part of our book week celebrations. Many of our students chose to dress in costumes from the country they have been studying in class while others chose to dress from a character in their favourite book. Congratulations to you all! What an amazing transformation, you looked magnificent and really added to the day and the week.

After our dress up parade assembly we saw our students travel around the world with their passports collecting stamps from each of the countries they visited. A big thank you to Mrs Rozario for creating the passport stamps for the students and assists Mrs Tait with the creation of the Passport as it added to the excitement of the day. In total there were nine amazing countries being shown at St Cecilia’s. I know that the students thoroughly enjoyed their time travelling from country to country and learning a little bit about each country from our talented staff. We have such a committed staff who are always prepared to join in enthusiastically with any event that is asked of them. They can always be counted on to make learning come alive for our students. Listening to the different ideas each member of staff had for their class and to share with all students was sensational.
**Friday Assembly**
On Friday morning we will have a quick assembly in the undercover area where thanks to the generosity of our P&F one student from each class will have the chance to win a book from the Book Fair. As students travelled from class to class they received a stamp in their passport. Their names were put into a draw and on Friday we will draw out one name from each class to be presented with a book.

**Transfiguration Mass**
A special thank you to Mrs Ramshaw for preparing the School Mass on Monday that celebrated the feast of the Transfiguration in August. "Transfiguration" is a long word that tells us about something wonderful but is hard to understand. To be transfigured means to be changed or glorified; on this day Jesus was transfigured. He showed Himself as God to three of His friends. How did He do that? He let them see Him changed, shining with light. After a little while He looked the same as before, but they still understood better Who He was. What a beautiful day that was!

Jesus led his three friends up a mountain.

They were all dusty when they got to the top, but they didn't care. Jesus began to pray. As He prayed, the way He looked changed. The disciples could hardly believe their eyes! The face and clothes of Jesus shone brighter than the sun. Have you ever looked up at the sun? You know how hard it is to look at the sun when it is shining; you have to quickly look away or your eyes will hurt. Jesus was even brighter than this. Maybe you wonder how this could possibly be? Because Jesus is God, He wasn't just FILLED with light, He IS Light! The disciples had to cover their eyes. At this time they knew that Jesus was God.

Thank you also to the students who assisted Mrs Ramshaw and helped participate so reverently in the Mass.
Year Five Parish Mass
Thank you so much to Miss Sweeney and our Year Five students for leading our Sunday Mass on the weekend. It was wonderful to see so many parents and students participating in the Parish celebration with Father Mark. Our students continue to show their maturity and confidence as they lead our community. Congratulations to each one of you.

Year Four Assembly
Last week saw Mr Sta Maria and our Year Four students take to the stage and perform Thriller as their class assembly item. I know as a class they spent time looking at moves on the film clip and thoroughly enjoyed the dance. Dance is a wonderful expression and I know they had a lot of fun working as a class to share their talents with the school community.

Kindergarten and Pre Primary Sports Day
On Wednesday 18 August our Kindergarten and Pre-Primary Students will take to the field for their sports day. I know that they are very excited about this event and have been practicing each week ready to take up the challenge. Students are invited to wear their coloured shirt to represent their team. It should be a wonderful day and we look forward to seeing many parents joining us in wishing the students every success. The day will begin at 9.00am on the oval.

Interviews for Kindergarten
Just a reminder that Kindergarten interviews are scheduled to begin on Monday 30 August; for next year. Letters will be sent out to all Kindergarten applicants next week whether they have been successful or not. Those that have been successful in gaining an interview will be required to contact the office to arrange an interview time. Unfortunately once again we have more applications than positions therefore we will be following the Catholic Education Office policy on enrolment priority.

Year Five Assembly
Next week we look forward to be dazzled by Miss Sweeney and the Fabulous Year Five Class as they lead our assembly on Thursday 19 August.

Reading at Home
Reading is an important skill which is developed through experiences with a wide variety of texts. This includes reading books and magazines, posters and charts, pamphlets and packets, letters and postcards. It also includes viewing multimedia texts such as movies and documentaries.

Children make progress at their own pace; some pick up new skills quickly and some need more time for learning and practising the new skill. All children need to be ready to learn and to have the best conditions for learning new skills. At school, teachers create safe, happy and stimulating environments where children are encouraged and praised for ‘having a go’.

You can create a similar learning environment at home with the following ideas:
- Make a regular time to read together and don’t stop reading TO your child when they can read themselves; they love listening to a competent reader.
- When you introduce a new book to your child, discuss what it could be about, talk about the pictures or text and then read it to each other. With older children you can encourage them to make predictions and pause occasionally to confirm or reject their original thoughts.
- Read and follow directions together such as when making a recipe or instructions for playing a game or assembling a new piece of furniture or toy.
- Read magazines and newspapers together and talk about the pictures as well as the text.
- Listen to audio books or story tapes and watch movies together. Once you’ve seen the movie, discuss it and then read the original book together.
- Most importantly.....make sure your children see you enjoying reading.

Literacy Research
We can safely predict that those individuals who can read and write (and numerically calculate) are most likely to be long-lived, healthy individuals who will enjoy a satisfying life on this planet and contribute positively to society; so making sure that everyone has the best possible chance to learn to read well has to be a major goal for all school communities.

Parent and family involvement and contribution to the development of oral language and associated literacy learning is vitally important, as reflected in an extensive range of research around the world. One study concluded that “... the likelihood of a child succeeding in first grade depends, most of all, on how much she or he has already learned about reading before getting there.” Parents of young children who encourage and support the development of their child’s literacy skills from the earliest years, give them greater chances to become students who achieve their potential...
and go on to lead effective, satisfying and productive lives in our communities.

Similarly, studies show that parents who present the experience of reading as a mutually enjoyable experience with an emphasis on reading as a source of pleasure and personal fulfilment, will be more effective than an emphasis on the skills acquisition and academic aspects of reading development.

A UK study demonstrated the positive benefits in the development of literacy skills in families where parents agreed to read with their children and encourage their children to read aloud to them. The results showed that children who read with and to their parents made significantly greater progress in reading than those who did not engage in this kind of literacy sharing. In fact, the gains achieved through parents working with their children, were shown to be significantly greater than could have been achieved through small-group instruction conducted by an external professional coach.

Parents introduce their children to the pleasure and satisfaction of reading together and reading aloud. Elder siblings and grandparents can also productively share that role of reading mentor and guide. The ideal of parents having quiet, dedicated time with their children sharing a book has positive learning, personal, cognitive, connective and social development benefits. This later develops into a productive partnership between parents and schools working together to build a community that loves books and values literacy.

God Bless and Happy Reading

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tonight our Confirmation candidates will begin their Confirmation Retreat. We have lots of enjoyable and meaningful activities planned for the next two days. On Sunday 15 August at 10.00am we will have Confirmation for the candidate attending St John the Baptist in South Hedland. We look forward to seeing you there! Next Sunday, 22 August we will have Confirmation for our candidates attending St Cecilia’s. Thank you to the Sacramental team, teachers, Father Mark and Father Tom for preparing the students for this very special time.

Mrs Ramshaw
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Pastoral Care Student Committee

We have recently chosen students from Year One to Year Seven to represent our students on the Pastoral Care Committee. Our first meeting with the students will be on Friday at lunchtime.

Well done to the following students:

Year One  Eliza Boyd
Takuzwa Hunya

Year Two  Cameron Warren
Mitchel Warren

Year Three  Bayley Warren
Zoe Britcliffe

Year Four  Emily Lowe
Carl Singh

Year Five  Riley Simcoe
Klaas Willems

Year Six  Heather Anderson
Brody Mellberg

Year Seven  Fiona Barr
Holly Bolton
BOARD COMMENT
The St. Cecilia’s School Board would like to reinforce the importance of the Uniform Policy, as mentioned by Ms MacKenzie in the last newsletter. The following information is clearly stated in the Parent Information Booklet, that each family receives when accepting enrolment in the school:

UNIFORMS - COMPELLARY
Students are required to wear correct uniform at all times according to our uniform code.
All children in Years One to Seven are required to wear the school uniform as specified below. A note of explanation is required if the correct uniform is not being worn.

HAIR AND GROOMING
Children are to be responsible for their own appearance and it would be appreciated if students could have clean shoes, shirts tucked in and socks up, as well as careful grooming and brushing of hair. Hair must be clean, neat and tidy. Students must have their hair styled or restrained so that it does not fall onto the face. Fringes must be no longer than the top of the eyebrows. If long, hair clips must be used to keep hair off the face. Students hair needs to be regularly examined for head lice and/or nits. Treatment is available from the chemist and parents should commence treatment as soon as the infestation is discovered. The school should also be informed and students kept at home until they are clear of lice/nits.

Hair should be:
- Clean, neat and tidy
- Girls long hair (collar length and longer) should be tied back firmly away from the face
- Boys hair is to be short back & sides, must be above the collar
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted
- Rats Tails are not permitted
- Coloured or dyed hair is not permitted
- Number one haircuts are not permitted
- No razor cuts
- Green or black hair ties and ribbons only

The information above is a reminder of the responsibilities that you have when your family is enrolled at St. Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School. The Board congratulates the many families that respect the uniform policy, however would like to see ALL families abiding by the policy.

JEWELLERY
Boys and girls are permitted to wear
- a watch
- a chain with a Holy medal
- studs or sleepers one in each lobe (small sleepers without accessories, one pair maximum)
- a Medic Alert bracelet (this is the only bracelet permitted)

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS
Book Week has been in full swing this week and the students have been excited about visiting the amazing book display! Tomorrow is the last day. Thank you to parents and staff members who have given their time and enthusiasm to assist with this worthwhile event. I would like to thank the parents/friends of the school who have come forward and offered their help in mending our books and covering our new resources.

If you happen to have free time after assembly on a Thursday morning, please come along to the library and I’m sure I can find a job for you.

Ms Tait
Library Teacher

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
We would appreciate any offers of help in the School Canteen. Even half an hour any morning would be appreciated.

Assistance is particularly needed on a Tuesday morning.

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

Thank you.

Mrs McLaughlin
Canteen Manageress

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.
04 Aug Pascal Zoghbi (Year Two)
04 Aug Benson Mbenjele (Year Four)
04 Aug Daniel Nakhoul (Year Six)
05 Aug Caitlin Flesner (Kindergarten)
08 Aug Reggina Blurton (Year Three)
09 Aug Cheyanne Pearce (Year Six)
11 Aug Rianan Mouat (Pre-Primary)
12 Aug Samara Herath (Kindergarten)
12 Aug Madara Herath (Year Four)
12 Aug Brayden Jessop (Year Five)
12 Aug Sara McDonald (Year Five)
13 Aug Sam Wilson (Kindergarten)
**MERIT AWARDS**

30 July 2010

KG: Matilda Boyd
Jack Riches

PP: Toby Hunter
Kordal Walker

Yr 1: Eliza Boyd
Olivia Campbell

Yr 2: Sophie Pileggi
Caelan Press

Yr 3: Ashley Elsum
Lily Fisher
Josie Simcoe
Madawee Wickramage

Yr 5: Sylvester Enciso
Brianna Barron Liddell

06 August 2010

KG: Jesse Adams
Samara Herath
Gabrielle Gorham

PP: Ella McGrath
Elizabeth Sinclair

Yr 1: Jade Adams
Ali Wilson

Yr 2: Mitchell Warren

Yr 3: Jordyn Cornelius
Saransh Mohanty

Yr 4: Matthew Cowley
Tess Mellberg
Daniel Perrott

Yr 5: Corbin Bellette
Tennika Quick
Dane Shipway

Yr 6: Ocean Anand
Heather Andersen
Jordan Mathews

Yr 7: Griffin Bellette
Holly Bolton
Shani Kellett

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**DYSLEXIA & IRLEN CLINIC**

Difficulties Reading? Problems with spelling? Worries with writing?
You don’t have to go to Perth for assessments. Find out exactly where your child’s learning has stalled and what can be done to help them.
Dyslexia and Irlen Clinic is in Hedland 8th and 9th September 2010 Following visit March 2011
Phone 1300 732 998 or email beatrice@irlenwa.com.au for appointments.
For more information and self-assessment visit www.worldwidelearningacademy.com.

**PARENT & FRIEND’S FEDERATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

the independent voice of catholic school parents in WA since 1964
 '..', Subsidiarity .., participation .., co-responsibility

**Wine & Cheese Open Forum**

Do you have an opinion on:
- The MySchool website?
- The role of the P&F Associations/Parent Councils?
- The cost of books and uniforms and other levies?
- Any other issues of interest or concern to you as a parent

Join us in an informal setting where we can openly discuss and formulate the position of parents of children in Catholic schools on these issues. This is an open forum and we welcome your input.

Where: PFFWA is located upstairs at St Peter’s Primary School 101 Wood Street, Inglewood
Phone: 9271 5909
When: Tuesday 7 September 2010 from 7-9pm
Please RSVP by Friday 3 September to 9271 5909 or admin@pff.wa.edu.au

Also, please join our new Facebook page which we update on a daily basis with the latest news and information from your PFFWA FB name: Parents & Friends Federation of Western Australia
YEAR TWO HAVE BEEN BUSY CARING FOR CREATION!

We threw on some rubber gloves and got to work cleaning up

Look how much rubbish and litter we found lying around our beautiful school! DISGUSTING!!!

You may have noticed some posters hanging up around the school encouraging you to look after our school environment. Here are some more helpful hints—

❖ Put your rubbish in the bin straight away so that it doesn’t blow away
❖ Make sure your rubbish lands in the bin and doesn’t blow away then CLOSE THE LID!
❖ If you see rubbish on the ground—pick it up! It doesn’t matter if it wasn’t yours.
❖ Try bringing your food in containers in order to reduce rubbish