mean a perpetual spiritual honeymoon but a giving of herself more and more to God as time went on. We can see evidence for this in the Gospels: at the presentation of Jesus in the temple, Simeon told her that her soul would be pierced with sorrow; when Jesus was twelve years old the family had a misunderstanding over why Jesus got lost for three days. Mary once again learned more about surrendering to God as Jesus told her that he had to be about his Father's business.

As she surrendered herself so much to God, God filled her with his presence just as God fills us when we surrender ourselves to God. Mary's sinlessness and being "full of grace" led naturally to her assumption, body and soul, into heaven at the end of her life. (Rom 6:23)

A way for us to surrender ourselves to God and be filled with the presence of God like Mary is to pray the Rosary daily. It is a most

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians,

If a small child hurts their finger, they run to their mother crying. All the mother has to do is to kiss the finger and it is well again. Children know their mother loves them and has made a great many sacrifices for them.

In the same way we look on Mary as our heavenly mother. She is the mother of us all. We look on her as our mother who loves us a great deal, who watches over us to protect us. She is the mother to whom we can tell every joy and every sorrow. We remember Jesus’ words as he was dying on the cross; he said to Mary, ‘Woman behold your son’, and to John he said, ‘Son, behold your mother’ (John 19:26-27). We have always regarded this little incident as being symbolic for us: as Jesus was dying on the cross, he gave us his mother to be our mother also.

The reason for our great joy this week is the celebration of Mary’s Assumption into heaven, a great privilege given to our heavenly mother.

Mary’s greatness lies in the fact that she was humble before God and surrendered herself to God. Her words to the angel at the annunciation are words that we need to meditate on a great deal, ‘Let it be done to me according to your word.’ (Luke 1:38) Surrendering of herself to God did not mean a perpetual spiritual honeymoon but a giving of herself more and more to God as time went on. We can see evidence for this in the Gospels: at the presentation of Jesus in the temple, Simeon told her that her soul would be pierced with sorrow; when Jesus was twelve years old the family had a misunderstanding over why Jesus got lost for three days. Mary once again learned more about surrendering to God as Jesus told her that he had to be about his Father’s business.

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A way for us to surrender ourselves to God and be filled with the presence of God like Mary is to pray the Rosary daily. It is a most
beautiful prayer, a prayer that can bring us closer to God and keep us closer to God. When we pray the Rosary we are not just saying prayers. Saying the prayers is to calm us down so that we can tune in to God and our blessed Mother. While we say the prayers our minds are meditating on the fifteen great events in the life of Jesus. When we are in desperation and we don’t know how to pray, it is a good prayer and is a most beautiful way to keep in contact with our heavenly mother. When we do so we can unite ourselves with Mary in expressing her sentiments: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.” (Luke 1:46-48)

This important feast day was celebrated on Wednesday in our school with a memorable Mass prepared by Mrs Joukhadar and led by our Year Five students. It truly was a most peaceful and spirit filled Mass. As always we were blessed to have Father John and Bishop Justin celebrate Mass with us. I loved the way both our celebrants spoke with the children and explained so beautifully what the Mass was all about and the importance of such a day in our Church.

Bishop Justin
Bishop Justin Bianchini has been our spiritual leader in the Geraldton Diocese for the past twenty years. This year we recognise his faithful service to our Diocese and in particular our churches and school. We are blessed to have Bishop Justin as our “Good Shepherd,” like Jesus, he is always there to love and guide us. Every year the Bishop comes to Hedland and spends time in our parishes and s0chool. Twenty years is an awesome achievement and we would like to let the Bishop know just how much his presence is felt by us all.

On Monday 20 August in the undercover area at 6.00pm everyone in our community and parishes are invited to join us for a meal under the stars and find the time to talk with the Bishop and fellow community. I hope you will bring your families to celebrate 20 spirit filled years by our Bishop. It would be wonderful if you could bring a salad or desert to share as meat and drinks will be provided.

The Bishop came to celebrate Confirmation with our two parish communities in Port and South Hedland. It is always a delight to welcome the Bishop as he makes each Confirmation special and personal to the candidates. His warmth and sense of humour is experienced by all. The Bishop joined in with our Confirmation retreat which was held on Friday 10 August. We began with a discussion with parents and a general question and answer session where concerns were raised by parents, and then the Bishop joined in with sessions with the candidates. They too were able to ask questions and further their knowledge on Confirmation and the meaning of this spirit filled Sacrament.

Director of Catholic Education
Today Dr Tim McDonald the new Director elect of the Catholic Education Office, came to visit our school. Dr McDonald will take up his new position in November this year. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet the new Director and introduce him to our students. The Director visited all classes and had a chat with the staff and students and learnt about our school community.

Pre Primary Assembly
Last week saw our impressive Pre Primary Class take to the stage to leading the school assembly, and I must say they dazzled the community. Under the direction of Mrs Rachel Grey and Mrs Danielle Retallack they oozed confidence as they told the community all about the solar system. Facts were flying around the room for all to brush up on their knowledge and then we were delighted to hear their sensational song about the planets. Far out Pre Primary you are all stars!

End of Year Musical Auditions
Our end of year musicals are coming closer and therefore it is time to audition for your chance to take on a speaking role in the plays. We have chosen two plays, one for our Kindergarten to Year Three students and one for our Year Four to Year Seven students. We will begin auditions in Week Six on Thursday after lunch for the seniors and Week Seven on the Wednesday after lunch for the juniors.

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. Next week Book Week will be a fea-
There will be no sales on Monday. The

Where:

Time:

people’s gifts.”

“I liked to have time to meditate and think about what it

“Reconciliation made me feel closer to God.”

“I enjoyed the puzzle piece activity with Mrs Springhall

“I enjoyed the day going around to each group and

“liked to have time to meditate and think about what it

Confirmation

Confirmation at St Cecilia’s last

Sunday was such a special and inti-
mate occasion. I very much look

forward to celebrating the Sacra-

ment with the children at St John

the Baptist parish this Sunday 19

August at 10am. Looking forward to

seeing you there.

Q&A with Bishop Justin

Thank you to the parents who participated in the

Bishop’s Q&A last Friday. It was an intimate and infor-

mal gathering where we could openly discuss issues or

concerns in the diocese or Church. We greatly appre-

ciate Bishop Justin’s time and the parents who partici-

pated.

Mrs Grace Joukhadar

Assistant Principal Religious Education

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR & BOOK WEEK

BOOK WEEK DISPLAYS – Students from Kindy

through to Year Seven have completed the most amazing

artworks based on books from the Children’s Book

Council of Australia shortlist. The artwork is truly in-

credible and is displayed in both the Library and the

Multi Purpose Room. All parents are strongly encour-

aged to come and view these fabulous displays. The

Library will be open every morning from 8:00am for par-

ents to come and view and the Multi Purpose Room will

be open from 8:00am – 8:30 am on Monday and

8:00am – 8:20am Tuesday to Friday.

BOOK FAIR – Our Book Fair is set up in the multi pur-

pose room and starts on Monday. Monday is a day for

viewing only. There will be no sales on Monday. The

Multi Purpose Room will be open for parents to come

and view the books and other items on Monday from

8:00am – 8:30am. Classes have been rostered to visit

the Book Fair on Monday to complete their wishlists.

On the wishlist we have included a credit card form for

those families choosing to purchase books on credit

card. Parents can also choose to pay by cash or

cheque. If choosing to purchase using cash or cheque

please place the money or cheque with the wishlist in

an envelope with your child’s name and class on the

front. Please see the advertisement in this newsletter

for opening times. Money raised through Book Fair

goes towards purchasing more WONDERFUL BOOKS

for our school LIBRARY!

BOOK WEEK PARADE – Just a reminder that the

Book Week Parade will take place at assembly on

THURSDAY 23 AUGUST. The theme this year is

CHAMPIONS READ (think Sally Pearson, Anna

Meares, Tom Slingsby, Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps etc)

or students may choose to dress up as their favourite

book character. I look forward to seeing everyone

(students, staff & any parents who are brave enough!)

dressed up on the day. It is a great day and I know

some families have been planning their costumes for

weeks! I am excited just thinking about it!

Miss Dee Campbell

Library Teacher

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

ICAS Assessments

Congratulations to all those students who have partici-

pated in the ICAS Assessments this year. We have

now completed all ICAS Assessments for 2012. Stu-

dents will take home certificates and scores for the

Computer Skills and Science Assessments today.

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Woolies Earn & Learn promotion has finished! It is

wonderful to see the support St Cecilia’s has received

throughout this promotion. I heard of families who had

family members in Perth and interstate sending their
stickers up to Port Hedland to help our school – that’s commitment!! Once again thank you to the whole school community for the way you have supported our school throughout the program. I will keep you informed about the equipment chosen.

Coles Sports for School Programme
Coles Sports for Schools Programme has also ended. Once again thank you to all our wonderful families that shop at Coles and brought in their vouchers to the school office. I look forward to selecting more sports equipment for our school!

THANK YOU
A very special thank you to all the students who have come into the office before school and stuck Woolworths stickers on cards and cut up and bundled Coles vouchers. You have worked AMAZINGLY and your efforts will really help our school to obtain some fantastic equipment for our school. Another special thank you goes to our parents (including Mrs Rozario) who have also helped to stick stickers on the cards and cut up the vouchers. These are menial, but incredibly important jobs and we really appreciate the time and effort you put into helping our school. It was fabulous to see parents who had arrived a little early to pick up their children, come into the office and keep adding stickers to cards.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal

MERIT AWARDS

02 August 2012
KG: Roy Flack Chiara Foti
PP: Raphael Nott Sophie Williams
Yr 1: Niamh McCrohan Lanijai Savy
Mason Smith
Yr 2: Menushi Perera Emma Schmich
Yr 3: Kyle Van Den Hurk
Yr 4: Jasmine Singleton Mitchell Warren
Oliver Wainwright
Yr 5: Cooper Elliott Mercedes Michel
Yr 6: Aditya Gupta Georgia Hinch
Yr 7: Joshua Elsum Kieran Murphy

09 August 2012
KG: Liam Allen Nadine Retallack
PP: Sarah Felsner Levi Hodgkinson
Yr 1: Anisha Babic Scarlett Foti
Jack Riches
Yr 2: Olivia Brojanowski Sophie Wainwright
Yr 4: Nathan Bourke Angelique Leopardi
Yr 5: Zoe Britcliffe Caely Cecich
Yr 6: Kara Nunn Rawiri Te Tau
Yr 7: Chloe Plamer Tatum Te Tau

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who will celebrate their birthday.

August
21 WADE, Shannon Y2
21 GUPTA, Aditya Y6
23 WILLIAMS, Ethan Y1
24 McGRATH, Lucy Y4
25 DERSCHOW, Chanelle Y3
25 GREEN, Hayden Y4
26 MARSDEN, Logan K
26 McLARTY, Cole Y3
27 MACPHERSON, Libby Y1
31 WALKER, Kordal Y2

CANEInT HELPERS DESPERATELY NEEDED
Please see Cathy in the canteen to discuss your offers of assistance. Even half an hour any morning of the week 8.30am to 9.00am would be appreciated.

ANNUAL EQUIPMENT CATALOGUES
~ Parent Direct, Chalk & Toys N More ~
We have 3 types of equipment catalogues. These have been issued to the youngest in each family.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION
CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
3-9 September 2012 Child protection
Sunday, 9 September 2012
at the conclusion of Child Protection Week
WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR CHURCH AND SOCIETY

DYSLLEXIA AND IRLEN CLINIC
Does your child have: 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 in September 2012 Phone 1300 732 998 or email: beatrice@worldwidelearningacademy.com for appointments. For more information and self-assessment visit www.worldwidelearningacademy.com. Next visit March 2013

SHORT TERM PAID POSITION

Applications are invited to cover the following position, due to Long Service Leave, from August to December 2012.

Canteen Manager
Temporary
(0.5 FTE)

Applications will need to be received by the school, addressed to the Principal, no later than

Friday, 24 August, 4:00pm

PO Box 700
PORT HEDLAND WA 6721
Ph: 08 9173 2162

Faith Family Friendship
VIEWING ONLY DAY MONDAY
PARENTS: 8:00AM—8:30AM
CLASSES: ROSTERED TIMES ON MONDAY

SELLING TIMES 8:00AM—8:15AM (TUESDAY TO FRIDAY) AND TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY LUNCHTIMES
Year Five have been learning about narratives and have been reading a novel called ‘The Truth About Verity Sparks’ by Susan Green. Here are some reflections of the book by the students...

Mr Plush is the father of SP (Saddington Plush). He is a detective that asks Verity Sparks to join his secret enquiry agency. What will this young girl bring to this agency? Read and find out! By Bayley and Jack.

Professor Plush is the father of SP (Saddington Plush). He is a detective that asks Verity Sparks to join his secret enquiry agency. What will this young girl bring to this agency? Read and find out! By Bayley and Jack.

Mr Plush is a private investigator. He is a very young man who has a moustache and curly brown hair with green eyes. He is a very kind man who looks after Verity Sparks in his home and cares for her. He is amazed by Verity Sparks’ gift. Mr Plush knows when he trusts and likes a person. He needs Verity Sparks’ help to solve investigations and deeply believes in her. He believes that she is a very special person and is willing to help her to get back on her feet independently. By Amy and Rani

Uncle Bill is a mean man who only cares about himself. He is a lazy, fat and drinks a lot of grog he has brown hair, blue eyes and has a pot belly. He is violent when he is drunk and hits and punches and hit his wife on the head. And he doesn’t like Verity. What will he do to her? By Lachlan and Thomas

Madame Louisette owns a fancy hat shop! She’s a loving and caring yet POSH lady. Madame Louisette’s character in “The Truth of Verity Sparks” is an innocent and courageous woman! Although when it comes to firing Verity or losing her job, Madame Louisette loses courage and fires Verity! What will she do now?! By Holly and Gemima
Mr Plush is a nice man who helps Verity to find a good job. Mr Plush is a detective who needs a helping hand. Could Verity be the one? By Noah, Callum and Clancy

Verity is a sweet 13 year old girl whose life is a complete mystery. Her itchy fingers lead to an even bigger mystery for S.P, Senior Plush and Verity. Verity is in for a big adventure full of action, excitement and suspense! By Zoe

Professor Plush is a caring to others. He is intelligent and easily calculates plans. He will do anything to protect Verity Sparks. He never gets high tempered but smokes a lot. Amy is his pet dog. By Angelo, Isaac J and Alioth

Professor Plush is a kind, gentleman, who has so many emotions. Professor Plush talks like a book in many ways. He has a moustache and grey hair. He is a very smart detective. Professor plush is a great guy. Soon he’ll meet Verity. How will he help her or how will she help him? By Branden, Jakob and Nicholas

Uncle Bill is a dirty, old and wrinkly man. Uncle Bill tricked Verity Sparks by trying to be an uncle to her. Bill lived in London in 1878 which is the capital city of England. So what will happen …? By Tobi-Craig

Uncle Bill is a thought less and selfish man. He has a mean attitude towards Verity and plays the role of Verity’s foster dad. What will he do to Verity next?... By Isaac M and Ashley
P&F News Bulletin

You’re Invited!

Friday 17th August

St Cecilia’s

Pilbara Photographic and Calendar Competition

Voting Night

Featuring

Magician and Children’s Entertainer -

Hey Presto

And the very Talented Artist and Speed Painter –

David Hooper

Plus: Door Prizes, Curries, Pasta, Sausage Sizzle, Cake Stall, Bar and Fantastic Photos!

Free Entry

If you can help with curries please contact Tracey on 0438211197 or tDALITZ@BIGPOND.COM & cakes contact Maria at britclif@bigpond.com

Vote for the photos you want to see in your calendar!