FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What an exciting term we have in front of us with so many wonderful events taking place. I know that it will be a very busy term but am confident that our school community is ready to take on the many challenges that face us at this time of the year. It is wonderful to welcome Mrs Grace Joukhadar to our school community. I know that while I was on leave she capably took on the leadership of the school and ran it most beautifully assisted by Mr Sta Maria and the Staff. Grace together with Dee Campbell form part of our leadership team for the remainder of 2011 and 2012.

Book Fair

After assembly last week we had a special book fair that was once again run by our amazing P&F. Mrs Tanya McGrath and her helpers set up a mini book fair and then were hands on to selling books to our parents. The offer was buy one get one free, and was timed well for Christmas. Thank you once again to our outstanding P&F for organising this event.

Kindergarten Assembly

What a fantastic assembly item we saw last week when our Kindergarten students took to the stage to lead our school assembly. The YMCA theme

The greatest gift we can give one another is life. Our Saviour gave his life for us and this week we remember those who gave their life for us so that we may be free.

They shall not grow old,
As we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We shall remember them.

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.
song was heard loud and strong. Our Kindy students were just amazing! The enthusiasm and passion from Mrs Carla Kay, Mrs Danielle Retallack and Mrs Megan Smith was clearly evident on stage, boosting the confidence of our youngest class. I love to see the joy and happiness on our students faces when they rise to a given challenge.

Swimming
In term One we took our Year Three to Year Seven students to the pool to practice their water skills for the school carnival. The students thoroughly enjoyed their time at the pool and really joined in well with all the activities.

Therefore we have decided to take our Kindergarten to Year Two students to the pool this term to spend some time on water activities. A note will be sent home on Friday outlining when this is to occur and asking for permission. If there are any parents who would like to assist us please contact Hilary in the front office.

Car Park
I would just like to make our parents aware of a problem occurring in our car park in the Kindergarten and Pre-Primary area. Many parents are driving onto the oval when choosing to park in the morning. We have had some near misses on the oval, as our senior students are setting up for fitness. Also we have reticulation on the oval that will be broken if parents continue to drive over the pipes. Parents please do not drive onto the oval. Use the blue metal drive only and reverse into a space.

Book Covering
Thanks to our fantastic P&F we have purchased some levelled reading books for our students to be used throughout the school. However we cannot use these books until they are stamped and covered. We would really appreciate some assistance from our wonderful parents. We will provide the contact and stamp. So if you are able to cover some books would you please contact the front office. We really are so fortunate to have some great parents who are always willing to help us in so many ways. As soon as the books are covered we can begin using them.

End of Year Concert
Our students are busily preparing for the end of year concert, which is always an exciting time. The students have all been given their speaking parts and scripts. We will be practicing the musicals each Friday, so students will need to bring their scripts with them until they know their parts off by heart. Costumes will be provided for the speakers and our choir will once again wear a green, white or red Christmas shirt along with their black sports shorts. If they would like to wear tinsel or Christmas hats they are more than welcome. We will be sending out notes closer to the date. If you are going to be absent from the Musical on Wednesday, 7 December could you please inform us so that we can find another student to take on their role.

St Vincent De Paul
There are many families in the Hedland area that find Christmas a difficult time and we are very fortunate to have St Vincent De Paul in Hedland. Each year as a school we provide non perishable items in hampers from each year level to St Vincent’s to help brighten up families who are in need. As a family if you are able to donate, non perishable food items it would be greatly appreciated, you will find a basket in each class. At our End of Year Mass we present the hampers to St Vincent De Paul.

Seafarer’s Shoe Boxes
Each year as a school we have supported the Seafarer’s who come to Port Hedland at Christmas time. Many sailors dock at our port and are away from their family and friends at this very special time of the year. We provide shoe boxes wrapped in Christmas Paper filled with trinkets and goodies that are appreciated by the seamen. We ask once again that as families you send along items that can be placed in the shoe boxes. Things such as shaving cream, torch, handkerchiefs...
chief, socks, cards and any other items that a Dad would like. These can be handed in to your class teacher. Towards the end of the year we will fill up shoe boxes and wrap them for the Seafarer’s. If you have any empty shoe boxes this would also be fantastic and help the cause.

**Kindergarten Orientation**
On Wednesday, 23 November we will be holding our Kindergarten Orientation to welcome our Kindergarten students for 2012. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet the other students who will be in the class next year together with their parents. Each family will be given an information booklet to help with the transition to Kindergarten. The morning begins at 11.30am and will conclude at 12.30pm.

**Partnerships**
From the moment you enrol your child at St Cecilia’s you are encouraged to develop a strong partnership with us. Research sends out a very clear message about the importance of partnerships in education. When parents express confidence in the school and teachers, and are involved in some way, their children are more likely to be happier and perform better academically. At St Cecilia’s we actively seek partnerships with our parents. This is done deliberately, because once forged, these partnerships have been found to result in:
- greater understanding by parents of their child’s schooling,
- greater understanding by teachers of the students and their unique needs,
- better communication and understanding between home and school,
- higher pupil morale and confidence,
- increased academic performance,
- increased goodwill and mutual esteem between parents and ‘their’ school.

Conscientious parents all around the world are concerned about the education of their children. They want them to get the most they can from their schooling and to grow up as happy, caring and useful citizens. They also know that the school cannot do this on its own; they need strong parental partnerships. Partnerships are the ‘educational glue’ which assists children to have a happy and productive time at school.

We want more for our children than healthy bodies. We want our children to have lives filled with friendship and love and high deeds. We want them to be eager to learn and willing to confront challenges. We want our children to be grateful for what they receive from us, but proud of their own accomplishments. We want them to grow up with confidence in the future, a love of adventure, a sense of justice, and enough courage to act on that sense of justice. We want them to be resilient in the face of the setbacks and failures that growing up always brings. And when the time comes, we want them to be good parents. Our fondest hope is that the quality of their lives will be better than our own, and our inner most desire is that our children will have all our strengths and few of our weaknesses.

The last verse from one of my favourite poems, ‘Unity’ really highlights the importance of the role of the home and school in achieving what we want:

> Day after day, the teacher toiled  
> With touch that was deft and sure,  
> While the parent laboured by her side  
> And polished and smoothed it o’er.  
> And when at last their tasks were done  
> They were proud of what they had wrought,  
> For things they had moulded into a child  
> Could neither be sold nor bought.  
> And each agreed they would have failed  
> If they had worked alone,  
> For behind the parents stood the school  
> And behind the teacher, the home.

It is so important that home and school support each other and take the time to listen to one another. We all want the very best for our students and sometimes this means acknowledging when our children have chosen poorly and allowing them to take responsibility for their actions. I would like to encourage parents of our older students to realise that at times their children may act inappropriately. When spoken to by a teacher, they need to be responsible and take the consequences of their actions, rather than casting dispersions on the staff, who are in fact upholding the rules of the school. I know that if we take the time, to look at each situation, from both sides we will help our students to become active, responsible citizens rather than blaming others for their misfortunes.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie  
Principal

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Year Three Class Mass**
This Sunday 13 November, at 8.30am our amazing Year Three class along with their wonderful teacher Mrs Tesar, will be leading us in celebrating the Eucharist in St Cecilia’s Church at 8:30am. It would be wonderful to see as many families there as possible, supporting our Year Three class and sharing this Eucharistic celebration as a community.
Feast of St Cecilia
The Feast of St Cecilia (our patron saint) takes place on Tuesday 22 November. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all parents and friends of St Cecilia's to celebrate the Eucharist with us on this special occasion. Mass will start at 8:45am in St Cecilia's Church – all are welcome!

Sacrament of Reconciliation
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Friday 25 November (Years 3, 4 & 5) and Monday 28 November (Years 6 & 7) in St Cecilia's Church at 8:45am.

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal Religious Education

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

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS
LIBRARY NEWS
Our Library looks INCREDIBLE! With colourful new furniture, new shelving and new displays, cushions etc., the Library has been totally transformed. Feel free to pop your head in and have a look!

Coles Sports for Schools
Congratulations to all our wonderful families who have been shopping at Coles and collecting vouchers! Wow over 40,000 vouchers. Last week I was able to order 20 footballs, 20 netballs, 20 soccer balls, 2 cricket kits, soft & safe ball kit, table tennis table and tennis balls. An amazing effort once again from our school community. These items should be delivered to the school early in 2012.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Well done everyone! Last week Mrs Joukhadar was able to order a Fractions Kit, a Volume Kit and a few smaller items as a result of your fabulous efforts! These items will hopefully be in our school later this year or early next year. Thank you again to all who brought in their dockets, and especially to Mrs Emma Merlo who volunteered to enter the dockets online.

THANK YOU
I am constantly impressed with the support our school receives from families and friends. From Coles vouchers, to Woolworths Earn & Learn, school discos, covering Library books, the list is endless. As always your support and efforts for the school are greatly appreciated.

Miss Dee Campbell
Library Teacher

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.

ABSENCES FACTS
If students are absent for 1 day per week this equates to:
- 2 days missed per fortnight
- 2 months missed per school year
- Over 1 year missed throughout primary school
- Over 2 years missed by year 10

FRIDAY FINS & GRINS
From Term Four, as long as we are able to get regular volunteers on Friday mornings between 9am and 12pm, we will serve our popular Fins & Grins. Unfortunately if we do not receive regular volunteers we will be unable to continue offering 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.

SEWING HELP NEEDED
If you can sew, assistance is required to sew costumes for the school and church Nativity and Easter Plays. Please contact Gillian Strachan through the School. Sewing patterns and fabric will be provided. These are basic white tunics with elasticised neck-lines, basic Angel costumes and other Nativity costumes. Some just require simple adjustments and overlocking. Thank you.

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

November
14 HOLMSTROM, Zaiden Y2
15 CRAWFORD, Rochelle K
18 REHN, William Y2
19 BRADY, Kaedyn PP
20 LIDDELL-TEWANO, Destiny Y5
21 NUNN, Kara Y5
23 McGrATH, Ella Y1
27 DEVLALIWALLA, Farnaz Y6
MERIT AWARDS

27 October 2011

KG: Mitchel Feeney  Jackson Suthers
PP: Maddison Barlow  Scarlett Foti
Yr 1: Jordan Currie  Jamal Doyle
        Rianan Mouat
Yr 2: Olivia Campbell  Jasmijn Logghe
        Shay Matthews  Charline Zoghbi
Yr 3: Tara Mellberg  Ruby Moore
        Jack Tonkin
Yr 4: Cooper Elliott  Alith Paciente
Yr 5: Thomas Barker  Elyse Phillips
        Jeffrey Strachan
Yr 6: Joshua Elsum  Jessica Jones

03 November 2011

KG: Anthea Colato-Lopez  Levi Hodgkinson
        Lukas Jonckheere  Amy Wade
Yr 1: Ryan Aspland  Jack Turner
Yr 2: Declan Rahman  Jemika Vrancic
        Kim Zaccheus
Yr 3: Ethan Gould  Ida Van Rysinge
Yr 4: Branden Greipel  Holly Spurling
Yr 5: Destiny Liddell-Tewano
Yr 6: Hannah Blackwell  Kiralee Vrancic
        Peter Wyn

COMMUNITY NEWS

PFFWA EXECUTIVE OFFICER POSITION
The Parents and Friends Federation of Western Australia is looking for a motivated person committed to parent advocacy and community engagement to work part-time in our Inglewood office. If you are interested, please see the job advertisement attached or visit our website www.pff.wa.edu.au for more information. Applications close 18th November 2011.

RIVERSIDE MULTISPORTS AT TRINITY COLLEGE
Riverside MultiSports are hosting a sports programme for students aged 6 - 14 at Trinity College from Wednesday, 11 January to Friday, 13 January. Each day will commence at 9:00am and conclude at 12:30pm with the focus being on a wide range of sports supervised by specialist coaches in a fun yet safe environment. To secure a place on this exciting programme or for more information, email riversidesports@live.com.au or call David on 0413342999.

CATHOLIC CHARASMATIC RENEWAL, Perth, W.A.
Presents SET FREE! to live and to love! a 3-day live IN INNER HEALING RETREAT conducted by international presenters Mrs Diana Mascarenhas & Fr Elias Vella OFMC. ‘SET FREE’ aims to liberate us from the bonds of grief, negative emotions, addictions and other burdens by ‘Healing of Memories’ and ‘Christotherapy’, through Jesus Christ.

‘SET free’ 3 day live-in retreat

DATE:  Friday, Feb 3 to Sunday, Feb 5 2012.
TIME:  Arrive Thurs evening for early start Friday!
VENUE:  St John of God Retreat Centre, Shoalwater.
COST:  $350.00
NOTES:  Open to registered delegates only.
To register contact Martha Kalat 0419 242 172 or Martha.KALAT@dmp.wa.gov.au

So many committed Christians, despite a strong encounter with Jesus Christ, are assailed by inner conflicts, unhealthy behaviour patterns and bewildering bondages … this retreat is the opportunity to be Set Free from such afflictions!

UNIFORM SHOP
Please note that the uniform shop will NOT be opening in January 2012, prior to the beginning of the school year.
We encourage all parents to order uniform requirements prior to the end of the 2011 school year. The first day for uniform orders in 2012 will be Thursday 2 February.
The uniform shop will also set up a stall on the Kindy orientation day, for Kindy and Pre-Primary uniforms.
We now have in stock size 4 windcheaters.

ENROLMENT CANCELLATION
If you are leaving town and/or the school at the at any time, please complete an Enrolment Cancellation Form. These can be collected or sent home from the office, also available on our website: www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au We would appreciate as much notice as possible as we have many students on the waiting list. This information will be kept confidential.
Year Two Gymnastics.

Tuck and Roll ...

Beak Board
Team Work

Log Roll

Balance Beam
St Cecilia’s 2012 Calendar

The calendar is due back from the printer any day now. If you would like to order one or more — they would make a great Christmas present! — please fill out the separate form and return to the office. We will also be selling calendars around town, so if you are able to help with this, please let Rhonda know.

Gingerbread Houses

Friday 25th November we will have gingerbread house assembly and decorating in the hall. Gingerbread house will cost $35 and you come along on the night to complete it, with icing and lollies for decoration! Please keep an eye out for the flyer coming home soon.

Annual General Meeting

The P&F and Board AGM will be held on Monday 28th November at 7pm in the school library. Please come along and support your school. The P&F is always looking for members - you don’t have to hold down a position to be on the committee.