STRENGTH

Should we feel at times disheartened and discouraged, a confiding thought, a simple movement of heart towards God will renew our powers. Whatever He may demand of us, He will give us at the moment the strength and the courage that we need.

Francois Fenelon

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians

Our Hall and Multipurpose Room has been officially opened. Last Thursday our community came together to celebrate the opening of our Hall. Ms Jody Tait was our MC for the day and kept the proceedings moving along. Ms Tait added fun and laughter to this special day and introduced all of our special visitors.

We started with a welcome to country by Mrs Diana Robertson. Mrs Robinson was representing the Traditional Land owners, the Karrinyarra people. She welcomed us in two languages firstly the traditional Aboriginal Language and then in English. It was a great experience to listen to the Aboriginal language from the Hedland area.

Mr Kerwin Matthews was kind enough to read the first reading of St Paul to the Colossians 3:12-17. In this reading we heard about God choosing us as his people, we are clothed in love and have the ability to work together for the good of all.

Mr Michael Ciccarelli from the Catholic Education Office came and addressed the assembly. He spoke about the warmth of our school and the wonderful community spirit that can be found at St Cecilia’s. He also spoke about the buildings that have been funded by the BER money for Catholic Education.

Father Mark Connolly was on hand to bless our crucifixes and buildings on behalf of Bishop Bianchini. Father Mark also gave the school a blessing and spoke most beautifully.

Then Mr Ciccarelli and Senator Pratt helped Father Mark place the crucifixes in the hall & multi purpose room.

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.

Accompanying this newsletter:
• P&F Newsletter
Senator Louise Pratt travelled to Hedland especially to open our Hall; she enjoyed meeting our students and spent time after the ceremony talking with many of them and to our parents. Senator Pratt began the countdown to the unveiling and it was fantastic to see everyone join in with the countdown. We would like to thank the Senator for joining us and making the day so memorable.

We had many special guests on the day that came to celebrate with us. Ms Kelly Howlett, our Mayor, came to join us and we were delighted that she was able to attend on behalf of the Town of Port Hedland.

We had Mrs Mary Jane Coates representing the Hon Tom Stephens. Mrs Coates was a former Chairperson of the St Cecilia’s School Board.

We were also joined by Mrs Trish Bourke our present School Board Chairperson and Mrs Chrissie McDowell another former School Board Chairperson. Fellow Board members Mr Patrik Mellberg, Mrs Sonja Gobel, Mrs Deb Lowe and Mrs Salome Mbenjele were also present. As always we were delighted by the attendance from our school community and most importantly our students.

I would like to thank our amazing students who were just awe inspiring. We began the proceedings by having our student leaders meet and greet our special visitors. They were just sensational, waiting as they were asked too and they did a sterling job. They escorted our visitors around the school and showed them the many works that were completed with the BER money. We were entertained by students from Years Four and Five who sang most beautifully. I would like to thank each and every one of you for a magnificent performance. The students were accompanied by Miss Emily Fox on piano and Master David Clarke on the mandolin and what outstanding playing. They really did make a huge difference to the proceedings. Last but not least to all our students from Kindergarten to Year Seven, your behaviour was sensational we asked you to sit for an extremely long time and you were very well behaved. Congratulations!

**Year Four Assembly**

Last Thursday we celebrated Remembrance Day and were led by Mr Sta Maria and the Year Four Class in a very moving and thoughtful service. At this service we remembered fallen soldiers and the true meaning of Remembrance Day; I would like to thank the fantastic Year Four class and their teacher for taking the time to really help us understand this day in paying tribute to all fallen soldiers.

**P&F AGM**

On Tuesday we held our P&F Annual General Meeting. I would like to extend thanks to all the parents that came and supported our amazing P&F. It was a wonderful opportunity to see just how much has been achieved by this inspiring group of dedicated people. We have our executive for 2011 and we hope that many parents will come and join us next year in supporting the school.

President: Rhonda Mitchell  
Vice President: Chantelle Cecich  
Treasurer: Maria Britcliffe  
Secretary: Sarah Bolton

Thank you to these wonderful women for stepping up and leading our P&F for 2011. I look forward to working with you again.

**Singing at the Opening of BHP**

On Wednesday, 1.00pm students from Year Four and Five will be singing at the Port Haven Opening Day. We look forward to singing as a choir and I know our students will represent St Cecilia’s well.

**Year Two Assembly**

Next Thursday we look forward to being led by Miss Roderick and the talented Year Two class. They have been preparing for this event and we know we shall enjoy their performance immensely.
Kindergarten Orientation
On Wednesday, 24 November we will be holding our Kindergarten Orientation to welcome our Kindergarten students for 2011. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet the students who will be in the class next year along 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

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
On Monday, 22 November we will celebrate the Feast of Saint Cecilia. The mass will begin at 8.45am and we would love to see parents join us in celebrating this very special school mass.

Saint Cecilia spent her short life as a dedicated follower of Jesus and displayed qualities of leadership, courage, integrity and gentleness. At St Cecilia's school today, these characteristics are encouraged through the way we speak to one another and through our actions. When Saint Cecilia was a little girl she could play every musical instrument perfectly. She would pick up an instrument and she was able to play it. Her voice was joyful and when she sang she sounded like an angel. Her love of music has seen her become the Patron Saint of Music.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
Just a short reminder that we collect food items for those in need in our community and present them to the St Vincent de Paul Society for distribution at Christmas. Please give generously to those who are less fortunate than yourself. Items must be non-perishable. There is a box in each classroom into which these goods may be placed. Thank you.

SEAFARERS' BOXES
Each year, we provide boxes of goodies that are presents to the seamen who are in Port Hedland on Christmas Day. We would like there to be enough boxes so that all seamen arriving in Port on Christmas and Boxing Day are able to receive a gift. Please support this worthy cause which is our witness and support to those who cannot spend Christmas with their loved ones. Your child will be selecting something that they would like to buy to put into the box in their classroom. Or alternatively you can fill up a shoebox of your own and hand it in to Mrs Ramshaw.

Mrs Ramshaw
Assistant Principal Religious Education

SCHOOL BANKING
Now the weather is warmer school banking will be held in the Library on Friday mornings.

CACTEEEN 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 cannot accompany canteen volunteers. Thank you.

Mrs McLaughlin
Canteen Manageress

ST CECILIA'S SCHOOL WEBSITE
Have you looked at our website yet? Uploaded to our website are many items of interest including: newsletters, term planners, canteen menu, uniform order form, medication authority form, cancellation form, parish information etc. If there are more forms or information you would find useful if included on our website please let us know and we will see if we can include it.

Go to: www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au

BATTERY RECYCLING
A reminder to all families that all old and used batteries can be placed in the collection box on the front counter of the office. All size batteries can be recycled including worn out phone batteries, any rechargeable cordless batteries eg cordless drill, shavers, laptop computers etc.

MERIT AWARDS
04 November 2010
KG: Matilda Boyd  Phoebe Perkins
   Jack Riches  Eoin Vickery
PP: Bethany Denny  Alexander Lowe
   Elizabeth Sinclair
Yr 1: Olivia Campbell  Shay Matthews
    Ben Singh  Riley Smith
Yr 2: Thomas Denney  Emily Feeney
    Angelique Leopardi
Yr 3: Georgia Phillips  Leanne Zoghbi
Yr 4: Breanna Bolton  Ruby Connor
Yr 5: Damien Buckland  Joel Nunn
Yr 6: Jasmine Bailey  Kaitlin Cavey
    Lauren McLean
Yr 7: Fiona Barr  David Clarke

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.

09 Nov  Reece Pedley (Pre-Primary)
12 Nov  Bethany Denney (Pre-Primary)
14 Nov  Beth Allen (Year Four)
17 Nov  Henry Connor (Kindergarten)
19 Nov  Chloe McDonnell (Year Six)
20 Nov  Destiny Liddell-Tewano (Year Four)
20 Nov  Chelsea Turner-Ledwidge (Year Seven)
21 Nov  Kara Nunn (Year Four)
COMMUNITY NEWS

MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE
“Follow in the Footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop … An Australian Pilgrimage” Visiting Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Penola 10 to 22 October 2011 - Limited spaces This pilgrimage has been prepared by and is led by the Sisters of St Joseph and is designed to help you enter more deeply into Mary’s story and spirituality. For a brochure, bookings and information please contact: Laura: 9 3 3 4 0 9 9 9, lmccarthy@sosjwa.org.au

RIVERSIDE MULTISPORTS AT TRINITY COLLEGE
Riverside MultiSports are hosting a sports programme for students aged 7-14 at Trinity College from Wednesday, 19 January to Friday, 21 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 Jonika on 0433 540 465

PORT HEDLAND DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE
Please be advised that on the following dates this Centre will be closed:
Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 November
Monday 06 and Tuesday 07 December
For all emergencies please contact:
South Hedland Dental Therapy Centre on 9172 1912 or Hedland General Dental Clinic on 9172 2223

HELP NEEDED
Vinnies in South Hedland is always looking for VOLUNTEERS, if you think you could spare any time at all please contact Anna 9172 3041.

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

ST CECILIA’S CALENDARS
Calendars that were pre-ordered are now available to be collected from the office.
Calendars will be for sale after assembly on Thursday, 25 November, and at the “2 for 1” Bookfair at the beginning of December.
You can also pay for and collect calendars from the front office.
They make great Christmas gifts—especially for family and friends not in Port Hedland.
Calendars are $10 each, so get in quick!

ENROLMENT CANCELLATION
If you are leaving town and/or the school at the end of this year and not returning in 2011, 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.
In science Year Three made ‘Spaghetti Towers’ with Mrs Ikin.

They were learning about Natural and Processed Materials and looking at the changes in properties through food.

“We had to use marshmallows to stick the tower together”

“It was quite tricky because it kept falling”

“Patience

Care

“It was so much fun!”
“It was a challenge to make what you had designed on paper into a spaghetti tower”

“...The marshmallows were VERY sticky”

Spaghetti Towers
WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?

HALL & MULTIPURPOSE ROOM OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY