Dear Parents and Guardians

Advent marks the start of the Christmas season. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and lasts four Sundays. The beginning date changes from year to year and as a result, so does the length of each Advent season. This year the first Sunday in Advent is Sunday 28 November.

The word advent, from Latin, means "the coming." It is a time of spiritual reflection as well as happiness and anticipation. This is the time we prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. If you look in the front office you will find the Advent Wreath. The Advent wreath is made from green leaves to symbolize continuous life and contains four candles - three purple and one rose. Each candle represents a special thought of hope, peace, joy and love. You may like to have your own Advent wreath at home. Below you will find readings from the bible that you could say before dinner as a family.

**First Sunday of Advent: Hope**
- Light one purple candle to symbolize Hope
- Prayer
- Read Isaiah 60:2-3
- Extinguish the flame

**Second Sunday: Peace**
- Light two purple candles - Hope and Peace
- Prayer
- Read Mark 1:4
- Extinguish the flames

**Third Sunday: Joy**
- Light two purple candles (Hope and Peace) and one rose to symbolize Joy
- Prayer
- Read Isaiah 35:10
- Extinguish the flames

**Fourth Sunday: Love**
- Light all four candles - Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
- Prayer
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7
- Extinguish the flames

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**Serenity**

God, give us the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish one from the other.

Reinhold Niebuhr

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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK**

**COMING EVENTS**

- **03 DECEMBER**
  - Y1-3 Karlarra House Visit
  - Y4-7 Stevens Street Visit
- **06 DECEMBER**
  - Board Meeting 7.00pm
- **07 DECEMBER**
  - Board AGM 7.00pm
- **07 DECEMBER**
  - Reconciliation Y3-7
- **08 DECEMBER**
  - End of Year Concert 6.30pm
- **13 to 16 DECEMBER**
  - Canteen Closed
- **13 DECEMBER**
  - Reports sent home
- **14 DECEMBER**
  - End of School Year Mass Y2
- **16 DECEMBER**
  - Last day of Term

**UNIFORM SHOP**

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

**ACCOMPANYING THIS NEWSLETTER:**

- Uniform order form

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**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.
St Cecilia’s Day
Monday, 22 November was the Feast Day of our Patron Saint and what an amazing day we had, as a school. We began the morning with a beautifully prepared Mass for St Cecilia. A special thank you to Mrs Ramshaw for creating this Mass along with Father Mark for celebrating the Mass with us. From here the students were divided into teams and progressed around a number of stations. As always the teachers came up with some fantastic water filled activities for our students. As I was travelled from group to group is was great to see so many smiling students who were having a blast. What really impressed me was the way our older students were assisting staff and younger students to join in the games. It was a wonderful sharing time of talents: congratulations to you all!

Next I would like to thank the many Mums and Dads who came along and assisted Mrs McLaughlin in the canteen in providing a sensational lunch for all. I think I can say that everyone enjoyed watching movies for the afternoon and finding time to rest from the heat. So, thank you to everyone that made this day possible.

Kindergarten Orientation
On Wednesday we saw our new Kindergarten students arrive for the first time to have a look at their new classroom and fellow students. Thank you to all the parents who joined us on Wednesday in bringing along our newest school buddies. Mrs Sheen was able to lead our parents through orientation and help familiarise them with the day to day routines of Kindergarten, while Mrs Southorn and Mrs Retallack kept the students entertained outside on the equipment. We look forward to seeing our newest students begin school next year.

Year Two Assembly
What an outstanding assembly we had last Thursday, led by Miss Roderick and the talented Year Two students. I am constantly amazed at what a wonderful job our students do when they lead the assemblies on a Thursday. We were given a wonderful rendition of Christmas from other parts of the world. When they began singing Feliz Navidad, it was just beautiful. Congratulations on a wonderful assembly!

Port Haven Opening
I must say I was so proud of our students from Year Four and Year Five who accompanied me to the Port Haven Opening. We travelled down to the venue by bus and the students preformed three songs to those assembled. Their singing was outstanding; I could not believe that 26 students could sound so perfect. I had an email later on in the day saying how wonderful our students were and that they were the highlight of the day’s events. Congratulations to each and every one of you, you were magnificent.

Tribute to our Parents
On Thursday, after assembly the staff wanted to show their appreciation to our wonderful parents, for all the many different ways they help our school community throughout the year. So as a collective, the staff provided morning tea as a way of saying thank you. We hope you enjoyed the morning tea and were sorry that not all parents could attend due to work commitments. As long as you are aware that we, as a staff, do thank you all for your help and look forward to working alongside you again next year.

Wider Community Involvement
Tomorrow we are looking at travelling with our students to the retirement homes in Port and South Hedland. Each year we like to visit the retirement homes to sing our Christmas songs that we are learning for our end of year concert. They always make us very welcome and it is a great opportunity for our students to speak with our seniors and learn about life in the past.

Board AGM
On Tuesday 7 December we will be holding our School Board AGM and all parents are invited to attend. It is a wonderful opportunity to find out about the year and what has been achieved on your behalf. During the meeting we shall also look at our NAPLAN results and how we are progressing as a school. We invite the community to come to the library at 7.00pm and be part of this meeting.

Kindergarten Assembly
What an awesome assembly by our youngest class and their talented helpers, Mrs Sheen, Mrs Southorn and Mrs Retallack. It was just sensational to watch their confidence as they took a turn to lead the assembly. What a fantastic way to finish off the year. Again I must say as Principal, how impressed I have been with the standard of performances during the year at Assemblies. Congratulations Kindergarten a beautiful assembly and adorable singing.
End of Year Concert
All students at St Cecilia’s have been busily preparing for our End of Year Concert. The concert will take place in the Hall on Wednesday 8 December beginning at 6.30pm. We will begin with the Kindergarten – Year Three students performing “Shine Star Shine”, followed by the presentation of our awards for the evening and ending with the Year Four to Year Seven musical, “Are We Nearly There Yet”. The students are looking forward to performing for you and hope that everyone can make the concert. All costumes for the actors have been provided. We ask that the choir wear their black sport shorts, white sneakers and white socks and a Christmas T-Shirt in red, white or green along with a Christmas hat or gold tinsel. If you can’t find a T-Shirt their green sports uniform shirt will be fine.

Concert Information
As you are aware our End of Year Concert will be held on Wednesday, 8 December beginning at 6.30pm. Students will need to arrive by 6.10pm to dress and be ready to commence at 6.30pm. As it will be hot and for our air conditioners to keep the room cool we ask that parents refrain from allowing young children to constantly enter and exit the hall during the evening. Once inside we ask that parents have their young children sitting with them and not running around the hall. Space will be extremely limited and for the benefit of those who would like to watch their children in the concert we ask that you control your little ones. At this time of the year we are also inundated with flies so the less movement in and out of the hall will also assist in keeping down their numbers from entering the hall and causing a nuisance for all. We appreciate your assistance and hope that everyone will have a wonderful evening.

Mass for Christmas
We will be holding our Christmas Mass for children on the eve of Friday, 24 December at 7.00pm. If you know you will be here for Christmas Mass and you would like your children to be involved, please let Father Mark, Miss Roderick or myself know so that we can organise the children joining in with the celebrations.

Swimming
Swimming is an important element that we have included into our Physical Education program this year. We strongly encouraged all of our students to participate in our water program held this year. Our Year Three to Year Seven students participated in Term One and then our Kindergarten to Year Two students participated in Term Four.

Royal Life Saving is deeply alarmed to see that the numbers of drowning deaths are the highest they’ve been at any time in the last 7 years, with 314 drowning deaths in Australian waterways between July 01 2009 and June 30 2010.

In the past 2 years the number of people drowning in Australia has increased by close to 21% - after a period of time where the number of drowning deaths was steadily dropping.

Thanks to the wonderful work by Mrs Ramshaw and Mrs McLean and their band of helpers at the pool, we have been able to offer a water program to all our students from Kindergarten to Year Seven this year. This has been a wonderful program and one that I know our students have thoroughly enjoyed.

Mrs Ramshaw

Mrs McLean

Being a Good Friend
Friendship is defined as the caring relationship which exists between two or more people. Having friends is important to everyone, so helping your child to develop skills in establishing good friendships is an important parental role; one which is supported at school. Much is said about the traditional ‘three R’s’ in education, but there are really ‘four R’s’ and the fourth ‘R’ is relationships. School is about learning to live as a com-
Community member, and relationships and friendships are the glue that keeps communities together. Here are some ideas and advice for developing healthy friendships:

- Be honest and truthful.
- Be there when your friend needs you; be helpful.
- Respect people’s feelings and belongings.
- Share your feelings and be a good listener.
- Be kind and caring.
- Invite people to join in your games and activities.
- Never talk about people when they are not there.
- Always keep your promises.
- Be prepared to forgive and forget; it is human to make mistakes.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Be the kind of friend you’d like to have.

Making and keeping friends requires a lot of effort. It’s not always easy and sometimes friends do things which are hurtful. A good friendship is one in which the people involved all work together to make it an enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone. Be prepared to step in and help your child if you sense that their friendships are not appropriate or suitable.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
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

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

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF HEDLAND
CHRISTMAS SERVICES FOR PORT HEDLAND & SOUTH HEDLAND

Monday, 20 December
Advent Penitential Service of Reconciliation
St Cecilia Church, Port Hedland 7.00 pm

Tuesday, 21 December
Advent Penitential Service of Reconciliation
St John the Baptist Church, South Hedland 7.00pm

Friday, 24 December
Christmas Vigil Mass for Families
St Cecilia Church, Port Hedland 7.00pm
Service of Carols & Christmas Vigil Mass
St John the Baptist, South Hedland 11.00pm

Saturday, 25 December
Mass of Christmas Day
St Cecilia Church, Port Hedland 8.30am
St John the Baptist, South Hedland 10.00 am

NO VIGIL MASSES ON SATURDAY, 25 DECEMBER

Sunday, 26 December
Feast of The Holy Family
St Cecilia Church, Port Hedland 8.30 am
St John the Baptist, South Hedland 10.00 am

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS

The students are no longer borrowing from the Library and all books need to be returned please. Thank you to all the families who have returned books and settled their accounts this week.

Mrs Tait
Library Teacher

ILLNESS

As a precaution we would like to let families know that we have had a few cases of Walking Pneumonia. Some of the symptoms are: High temperature, aching body, lethargy, loss of appetite etc
SPORT
The Active After School Community Program finishes this week. Thank you to all the parents and students for their support with this program. The students always have a great time and it is nice to see new faces attend each term. Thank you to the staff who give up their time after school to run these exciting activities.
The Kindy to Year Two swimming also finishes this week. It has been a great success. Thank you to all the parent volunteers and staff for helping on Wednesday mornings. A special thank you to Annette McLean for your guidance and enthusiasm for swimming. We will miss you next year!
Mrs Ramshaw
Physical Education Coordinator

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

MERIT AWARDS
19 November 2010
KG: Charlotte Emmitt Gabrielle Gorham
Samara Herath Elsie Mbenjele
PP: Tyler Akerman Jordan Lewis
Jack Turner
Yr 1: Takudzwa Hunya Jemika Vrancic
Kim Zaccues
Yr 2: Jesse Battle Tyler Pedley
Yr 3: Skye Akerman Luke Garbin
Branden Greipel
Georgia Meszaros-Simon
Yr 4: Madawee Wickramage Josie Simcoe
Yr 5: Charlotte Boyd Sara McDonald
Yr 6: Josh Allen Jordan Dershow
Georgia Gear Danial Nakhoul

25 November 2010
KG: Mackenzie Lowe Lanikai Savy
Mason Smith Sam Wilson
PP: Ryan Aspland Ella McGrath
Alexander Jonckheere Curtis Richard
Yr 2: Phoebe-Cate Mouat
Yr 3: Clancy Esmonde Kato Willems
Yr 4: Beth Allen
Yr 5: Samantha Bolton Celeste McCorry
Kiralee Vrancic Klaas Willems
Yr 6: Chloe McDonnell Rebekah Phillips
Yr 7: Emily Barratt Ethan Britton
Zach Esmonde Gerry Fox

BIRTHDAY WISHES
Congratulations to the following students who celebrated their birthday.
23 Nov Ella McGrath (Pre-Primary)
26 Nov Renee Buckland (Year Seven)
27 Nov Farnaz Devlaliwalla (Year Five)
28 Nov Ben Singh (Year One)
28 Nov Kyle Gould (Year Four)
30 Nov Farzan Devlaliwalla (Year One)
1 Dec Ben Vickery (Year One)
3 Dec Ethan Gould (Year Two)
4 Dec Charlotte Jonckheere (Year One)

UNIFORM SHOP
We would like to encourage parents/guardians to place their uniform orders for 2011 during Term Four 2010, to avoid the queues and heat in January. An added Bonus is that you get uniforms at 2010 prices.
Please note payment is required when placing your order.
A uniform order form is enclosed with this newsletter and available on the schools website.

2011 UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS
The Uniforms shop will be open on the following dates and times prior to the 2011 school year commencing:
Monday, 31 January 10.00am to 12.00noon
Tuesday, 01 February 10.00am to 12.00noon
Then each Thursday after assembly approximately 9.00am to 9.45am.

COMMUNITY NEWS
OUTDOOR MOVIE & CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Department of Housing’s South Hedland New Living proudly invites all families to attend the free Outdoor Movie and Family Fun Night being held on Saturday 11th of December at Shay Gap Park, South Hedland.
The night of fun will include the screening of The Polar Express; heaps of fun children’s rides and activities; community stalls; food and drink available for purchase and face painting.
The festivities start at 5.30pm, Visit from Santa at 6:30pm and the movie commences at 7:00pm.
This event is a great opportunity to get to know other residents in the relaxing environment of your local park. So bring your Christmas cheer and enjoy the festivities with all your family and friends! Further Information:
Flyers: Will be distributed to each student and across the community.
Phone/Email: Contact either Sarah Amiradaki on 9140 2374
sarah.a@creatingcommunities.com.au
Pre-Primary

Swimming
SUPER STARS!

“My favourite part was going through the tube”
Toby

“We got to play lots of fun games”
Cullen

“I liked diving in the deep pool”
Bethany
ST CECILIA’S CALENDARS
Calendars that were pre-ordered are now available to be collected from the office.
You can 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!

SCHOOL BANKING
Banking has now finished for 2010.
The last banking day was Friday 26 November 2010.

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SCHOOL BANKING
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The last banking day was Friday 26 November 2010.

CANTEEN CLOSED
The last day the Canteen will be open for 2010 is: Friday 10 December.
Therefore the Canteen will be closed on:
Monday 13, Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 December 2010.
All students will need to supply their own recess and lunch on these days.
The Canteen will also be closed for the first week of Term One 2011.
Opening in Week Two.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
The last day of school for Term Four 2010 will be Thursday 16 December 2010
Students return to school for Term One 2011 on Wednesday 02 February 2011

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.

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