HISTORY

In 1941, a young priest Fr Edward Bryan arrived in Port Hedland. He saw a need for a school and the Convent School of the Presentation Sisters was established. Later it became known as St Cecilia's School. The Sisters arrived by plane in July 1942. It was dry and hot but they set to work and began setting up the convent school. They used the old C.W.A building and just five days after they arrived, the school began.

The Sisters had a love for all people but in particular they wanted to bring education to the Indigenous children. These bright and happy children were in need of education and the sisters had a love of teaching.

During 1944, World War 2 had an effect on the town. While many were leaving after the bombing, the Sisters refused to leave their school and the people whom they loved. They remained and continued to provide education. The school was relocated to the corner of Richardson and Wedge Street. Life was tough but the Sisters were tougher. Though they had no air conditioning, gas, electricity or running water, they continued to prosper.

In 1966 the school had expanded and there was a need to move the school to larger premises. The present site in Sutherland Street became home to the school. It has continued to grow and develop but we will always remember the Presentation Sisters and the role they played in establishing St Cecilia's.