

St Cecília's Catholic School

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22nd February, 2023

Dear Parents,

Today is Ash Wednesday, the day in our Liturgical Seasons where we welcome Lent. Lent is a special time of the year when Catholics prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. Today when we attended our Ash Wednesday Mass, we were sprinkled with ashes to remind us that sometimes we make mistakes and may not act as we should. During Lent we try to do good things for others. We try to go without the things we want for ourselves. By doing this we are trying to be better people, we are standing beside our brothers and sisters who live in poverty and injustice, and we are working in hope for a fairer world for all. During Lent we tell God and each other that we are sorry, and we want to be more like Jesus. Our challenge as parents and educators is to provide an example to the young people in our lives that will encourage them to live a faith filled life.

Many thanks to all families who brought in a gold coin donation yesterday on Shrove Tuesday in support of Project Compassion. We raised \$377 and today we even received some late donations, which are always welcomed at the office.



GOAL SETTING MEETINGS

Please remember to book your goal-setting interviews with your child's teacher on Compass. You can do this through the app, by clicking on the **'More'** icon in the bottom right-hand corner and then choose the **'Conference'** option to book your meeting time.

These meetings are an important time to develop a close connection with your child's teacher and develop a strong partnership for this year that will support your child to continue achieving their potential.

The meetings will take 10 minutes and will be held in your child's classroom. Please knock politely on the door at your time of arrival, just in case the teacher and parent has lost track of time during their meeting.

Before the meeting, we also ask that you take the time to complete the Parent Form that was sent via Compass last week. These meetings and forms will help your child's teacher to learn from parents or guardians so we can be better informed about your child's strengths and needs.

CLASS PARENTS

Thank you so much to all the parent volunteers who have put their name forward for the role of class parent. You would have received communication from myself confirming the appointment of your new role.

We are still seeking class parents in both year 2 and both year 4 classes, plus Kindy Blue and 6 Blue. Please consider the role, by putting your name forward in this form. (Examples of responsibilities within the role provided at link too). <u>https://forms.office.com/r/TExrrKR1wV</u>

FLIP MEETING #5

A reminder that on *Tuesday 28th February at 6:15pm*, all parents are welcome to the Families Leading in Partnership meeting. The meeting will take place in the Library and the agenda will cover the following:

Parent Connectors	Faith and Learning Partners	Community Building Team
- Class Parents Role Description and assigning of class parents.	- Introduction of our new Parent Engagement Coordinator.	- 2023 Scheduled grade events for the school calendar.
- Assign Secretary for 2023 FLIP meetings to take minutes of FLIP meetings to share with the community	- Introduction of Faith and Learning Walks	- Presentation of new building project plans and drawings.

Please RSVP at the following link for your attendance. https://forms.office.com/r/ScSefv7HJF

SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

The students are looking very smart at present in their school uniform. At St Cecilia's we take pride in our appearance with high uniform and personal grooming expectations. This means that mullet cuts, mohawks, undercuts and zip lines are not acceptable in our school. Hair should also be kept neat and tidy, and girls should wear their hair tied back. Schools can also be prone to hair lice, perfectly normal but annoying for all concerned. Please check your child's hair regularly and tie it back to help avoid the spread of these annoying little creatures.

We also require students to wear only one pair of earrings, no nail polish, no jewellery (other than a crucifix under the shirt) and no other coloured accessories as these are not a part of the uniform. Studs or sleepers only in earrings.

We respectfully ask that all children are sent to school each day abiding by the school guidelines as stated on uniform expectations in the Parent Handbook. You would have received this handbook upon enrolment.

We understand there are times when your child cannot wear a part of their uniform for a particular reason. We simply ask that you provide them with a note or message in the diary for the teacher to explain the reason.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIME

Students may arrive at school between 8:15am and 8:45am, but not before, unless they are attending a supervised activity such as Music Bus or Busy Bees. There are children sitting unsupervised on the playground before 8am or even from 8am, which I ask be avoided. If you have work or other commitments before 8:15am, please plan for childcare prior to this time. There is no teacher on playground duty before 8:15am to look after the children.

There is Busy Bees Before School Care service on the school site that you may like to access if you have earlier commitments.

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Mrs Michaela Doughty and her husband who are expanding their family and expecting a baby in July. Baby news is always wonderful to receive and such a blessing. We wish Mrs Doughty all the best during her pregnancy.

I will be advertising for a new classroom teacher at the start of term 2.

Over the holidays our beautiful Mrs Cattabriga gave birth to her son Maverick. Mrs Cattabriga is loving her newborn cuddles and tells me Maverick has found his voice, so conversations are deep and meaningful and ever so precious at the moment.



GOODBYE MRS O'NEILL

It is with much sadness that after 18 years of commitment, connection and unconditional assistance to our community, Mrs Cheryl O'Neill (in the office) will be finishing up at St Cecilia's before the end of this term.

Cheryl has been so much more than just an administrative staff member. Throughout her years at the school Cheryl has acted as counsellor to many, carer to thousands of children, a motherly figure, advisor and companion to many.

Cheryl, you have truly made a significant contribution to our school's success. We wish you all the best and good luck for the fantastic possibilities and opportunities that await you with your family and especially those grandchildren. Your nurturing nature and compassionate heart will be truly missed. Though we do hope to still have you back in a casual capacity. God Bless you on this journey.

YEAR 6 T.E.A.M LEADERS

At Friday morning's assembly Father Raul will bless the Year 6 T.E.A.M leader badges and our Mini Vinnies badges. The badges of our newly appointed year 6 T.E.A.M leaders and Mini Vinnies representatives will be presented before the Awards Ceremony at 8:45am.

Congratulations to the following Year 6 T.E.A.M (Together Everyone Achieves More) leaders listed below. The goal of these TEAMS is to involve our year six children in leadership roles in a purposeful and meaningful way where they extend and use their individual gifts and talents to inspire others. We know you will do us proud and make a profound impact on our school.

Pastoral	Wellbeing	Arts	Environmental	Digital Leaders
TEAM	TEAM	TEAM	TEAM	TEAM
Izabele M Keaton J Billy K Kaydee C Scarlett K Dean H	Grace B Sophy N Beau G Alison W Callum H Beau S	Megan A Imogen V Mackenzie W	Kaylee D Hallie E Maddy H Tory L Abigail S Jack W	Xavier S Logan H Keithen L Nicholas S Andrew W Caleb C Liam W Toby R

2023 MINI VINNIES REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following children elected by their peers as the class representative for Mini Vinnies. The K- 5 children will be acknowledged and receive their badges at Friday morning's assembly after Father Raul blesses the badges. The Year 6 Pastoral TEAM leaders will lead the Mini Vinnies team by example and help to empower their younger fellow Mini Vinnies members to become advocates within their school and local community by putting their values into action. The children will meet regularly to learn about social justice issues, develop leadership skills and engage with the wider St Vincent de Paul Society.

K Gold	Hux S	K Blue	Lara W
	Scarlett F	IN BIGC	James B
1 Gold	Jackson M	1 Blue	Elleah C
	Scarlett B		Scarlett O'C
2 Gold	Claire G	2 Blue	Aine H
2 6010	Violet H	Z Diue	Ava S
3 Gold	Ivy C	3 Blue	Advik P
	Parker G		Charlotte T
4 Gold	Olivia C	4 Blue	Zali Mc
- 00lu	Zach W	- Diue	Laila F
5 Gold	Sam T	5 Blue	Zachary T
	Lorelei F		Mikayla O'C

POKEMON CARDS

While Pokemon cards can be educational they are currently causing an utmost amount of distraction and other issues at school. Therefore, we are putting a pause on children bringing Pokemon cards to school. Please remind your child of this and ensure they do not bring the cards to school.

God Bless

Marta Chylewska Principal

From the REC



Shrove Tuesday - Thank You!

Thank you to our generous St Cecilia's community for donating \$377 for Project Compassion. Every dollar raised will help change the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people and communities. We have made a difference St Cecilia's by supporting this important initiative.



Parish Masses

From Monday, the 27th of February, our students will attend the regular masses with the parish community at our St Cecilia's Church, Wyong. The grades will be assigned a mass per term to attend. This will give the children an opportunity to discover and strengthen the meaning of Christ in their lives and familiarise themselves with the structure of the mass by using the parish's order of the mass cards. All are welcome at the 9:15 mass!

Our St Cecilia's school calendar highlights which grades will be celebrating these parish masses.

Kindergarten Mass – 1 May 2023 Year 1 Parish Mass – 3 April 2023 Year 2 Parish Mass – 27 April 2023 Year 3 Parish Mass – 13 March 2023 Year 4 Parish Mass – 20 March 2023 Year 5 Parish Mass – 6 March 2023 Year 6 Parish Mass – 27 February 2023

2023 Sacramental Program

Information regarding the 2023 sacramental program has been communicated via Compass. If you require further information or have any enquires about the sacramental program, please contact Jo Helm at the St Cecilia's Parish Office on 0424 763 734. A summary of the important dates are as follows:

Sacrament	Year Celebrated	Dates
Reconciliation	Year 4	Information night Monday, 20 February @ 7pm, St Cecilia's Church Ceremony Tuesday, 21 st of March @ 4pm, St Cecilia's Church
Confirmation	Year 3	Information night Monday, 29 May @ 7pm, St Cecilia's Church Ceremony Saturday, 15 July @ 10am, St Peter's College
Eucharist	Year 4	Information night Monday, 7 August @ 7pm, St Cecilia's Church Ceremony Friday, 15 September @ 5pm & 6:30pm St Cecilia's Church

Upcoming Liturgical Celebrations

Term 1 Dates

- Saturday, the 25th of February, **K**, **5**, **6** Buddies and Reconciliation Mass @ 5pm, St Cecilia's Church
- Friday, the 17th of March, **St Joseph's Liturgy** at 8:45am, Assembly Area
- Tuesday, the 21st of March, **Year 4 Reconciliation Ceremony** at 4pm, St Cecilia's Church

Awards and Acknowledgements



Congratulations to the following students for their achievements

Academic Achievement

Kinder Blue	Marina-Ann I	Kinder Gold	Taj S
1 Blue	Anastasia G	1 Gold	Tomas J
2 Blue	Harrison O	2 Gold	Samantha M
3 Blue	Sebastian W	3 Gold	Spencer T
4 Blue	Zali M	4 Gold	Miranda T
5 Blue	Alisha P	5 Gold	Nyah C
6 Blue	Lincoln G	6 Gold	Het K
Drama	Mikayla O 5B	Japanese	Jayden M 5G

Personal Best

Kinder Blue	Samara B	Kinder Gold	Delilah P
1 Blue	John H	1 Gold	Рорру Н
2 Blue	Ava J	2 Gold	Yu Han Y
3 Blue	Neenah M	3 Gold	Malachi E
4 Blue	Connor P	4 Gold	Amalia M
5 Blue	Zac S	5 Gold	Hudson B
6 Blue	Ciera Ham	6 Gold	Callum H
Drama	Nehemiah M 5G	Japanese	William T 4B
Library	India T 5B	Library	Mia T 5G

PBL Award

Kinder Blue	James B	Kinder Gold	Noah O
1 Blue	Eli P	1 Gold	Jackson M
2 Blue	Charlie C	2 Gold	Ashlyn L
3 Blue	Samuel S	3 Gold	Hannah S
4 Blue	William T	4 Gold	Thomas P
5 Blue	Oliver L	5 Gold	Nehemiah M
6 Blue	Abdur Rehman J	6 Gold	Sophie M
Drama	Oliver L 5B	Japanese	Connor G 2G