

Principal's Update
Term 1 Week 9
26th March, 2019

Dear Parents,

Holy Week

During weeks 10 and 11 the students will be journeying with Christ towards Easter as they engage in different prayer experiences. From Monday, the 1st of April until Thursday, the 11th of April a different prayer station will be created in the Meeting Place. You are welcome to join in our celebrations before school from 8:30am - 8:45am.

The following outlines the different prayer stations that will be created: Palm Sunday, washing of the feet, the Last Supper, Jesus prays in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus is betrayed, arrested and condemned to death, Jesus suffers, Jesus struggles to carry his cross, Jesus is nailed to the cross and dies, Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Following these prayer experiences will be a whole school liturgy that will take place on Thursday, the 11th of April at 8:45am.

Harmony Day

We had a great Harmony Day Celebration. Thank you to the amazing parents who shared their culture with the students.



Afternoon Student Pick up

Can we please remind all parents to collect their children from the area under or near the hall after the bell as many parents are venturing up to the assembly and surrounding areas? Our students' safety is a priority and it is not easy to monitor who is leaving with whom when people are everywhere, obstructing our ability to see the students. Can we also remind you to leave the grounds via the gate near the hall rather than the front gate as students are taken though here for the buses.

School Disco and Easter Hat Parade

The school disco for this term is on this Friday 29th March from 5:30pm till 8pm. The year 6 parents have organised a Hotdog Meal Deal if you would like to order this as an alternate to cooking dinner. The Easter Hat Parade will also be on with the disco. The Hot Dog note is attached in case your child did not bring one home.



Staff Development / Pupil Free Days

We will be holding two Staff Development / Pupil Free days this year.

The first is on **Friday 7th June**. On this day teachers will be developing their skills in creating learning experiences that encourage and support our students to be critical, deep thinkers, risk takers and problem solvers. The second is on **Friday 25th October** and is on Spirituality. Both these Days will be held off the school site. The first at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School, Wyoming and the second is at the MacKillop Centre, Kincumber.



School Photos

School Photos this year will be on **Wednesday 1st May**. All children will need to be in their complete summer uniform please. Envelopes for the photos were sent home yesterday afternoon.

Kinder 2020

It's that time of the year already. We will be holding our **2020 Kinder Information night** on **Tuesday 2nd April at 7pm**. The following day we will hold our **Kinder Fun Morning** on **Wednesday 3rd April** from **9:15am–10:30am**. See flyer below.

Mobile Phones and other Electronic Devices at School

We understand that, in certain circumstances, your child may need to carry a mobile phone for the time between school and home as a safety precaution however we do not allow the students to use their phones at school. They need to be kept turned off and in their school bags throughout the school day. If you need to get a message to your child throughout the school day please call the office and the message will be passed on. We ask that you remind your children that they must keep their phones off or they will be taken from them and you will be called.

If your child brings a phone or other electronic device to school please be aware that the full responsibility lies with your child. We cannot ensure these items will be safe and secure. It is preferable that any unnecessary devices and toys be kept at home to avoid upset and disappointment.

NAPLAN

Information for parents on NAPLAN and the new system for the students to access the assessments is attached.

IPad covers for families

We have a number of iPad covers that we no longer need. If you would like a cover for your child's iPad they will be placed in the office foyer for pick up or you could email the office and we can send one home. There are three types of covers in varying conditions.



Bunnings BBQ

Thank you to the parents who helped with the Bunnings BBQ on Sunday and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Yvette Owens
PRINCIPAL

PLEASE RETURN BY WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH



EASTER HAT PARADE / SCHOOL DISCO
FRIDAY 29TH MARCH FROM 5:30PM
PRE-ORDER - HOT DOG DINNER



All children are invited to create an Easter Hat for the school disco and parade.

Please note: There will not be any Hot Dogs available for purchase on the night. All Hot Dogs must be pre-ordered. Lolly bags and drinks will be available for sale on the night.

EASTER RAFFLE: we are also having an Easter Raffle this year and it will be drawn at the Disco.

You can order for any members of your family. Simply indicate the number required in the box and attach the correct money. Complete one per family.

Family Name: _____

Eldest child's name and class: _____

Hotdog Only - \$3.00

Hotdog and Drink - \$5.00 choose your drink (soft drink or water) below:

Cola

Orange

Lemonade

Water



Moving to NAPLAN Online

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

NAPLAN School Practice Test and NAPLAN Online Test 2019

All catholic schools in the Broken Bay Diocese will transition to NAPLAN Online this year. Students will need to complete a short Practice test in March to gain experience in using the online platform and for ACARA to test it's functionality. The Online Tests will be completed in May.

St Cecilia's held the Practice Test this week with Years 3 and 5 participating.

The Practice Test will ensure schools are ready to undertake NAPLAN Online in May 2019. It also allows students and teachers to familiarise themselves with the online system and experience the test delivery method.

The Practice Test is a 'dress rehearsal' for schools to prepare for NAPLAN Online. The Practice Test is not an assessment of student ability. The practice test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3 and 5 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.



ST CECILIA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

OPEN DAYS
APRIL 2019

ENROL NOW
FOR 2020

Enrolment Information Evening Tuesday 2nd April 2019, 7 – 8pm

Kinder 2020 Fun Morning Wednesday 3rd April 2019, 9.15 – 10.30am

Developing students' spiritual, academic and social development,
empowering them to think creatively and be confident problem solvers.

Come along and see what a Catholic education can offer your child.
School tours can also be arranged by appointment.

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