

## **Principal's Update**

### **Term 1 Week 7**

**9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021**

Dear Parents,

#### **COVID RESTRICTIONS LIFTED**

The easing of COVID-19 restrictions brings exciting news for schools this week, with parents and carers now able to enter the school grounds and attend school sporting events again, which in our case is very exciting for the upcoming Athletics Carnival on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April where parent spectators and helpers will be most welcome. As we have now reached 50 days without community transmission in NSW, and the rollout of the vaccination program is under way, the NSW Government has recently eased restrictions across the state on the advice of NSW Health.

All school visitors assisting in activities or delivery of curriculum in class must continue to sign in via Compass in the office foyer, where they acknowledge that they will comply with the COVID-19 requirements. We will continue with similar protocols for parents and carers attending assemblies, where sign in via the QR Code is still essential and if you are needing to pick up your child earlier, we ask that you still come to the school office for collection of your child rather than going to their classroom.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support in keeping our community healthy and safe. We look forward to gathering together once again, as St Cecilia's community. For more detail in regard to the relaxation of COVID restrictions in our Diocese, please click on the link below.

[Relaxation of COVID Restrictions in Schools - Catholic Schools \(csodbb.catholic.edu.au\)](https://csodbb.catholic.edu.au)

#### **MARCH BROKEN BAY NEWS**

Welcome to the first issue of Broken Bay News for 2021! The magazine is now published four times a year, in March, June, September and December. Read it online now here.

[https://issuu.com/.../broken\\_bay\\_news\\_march\\_2021\\_issue\\_209](https://issuu.com/.../broken_bay_news_march_2021_issue_209)

#### **NAPLAN**

Years 3 and 5 will be completing NAPLAN online in week four of term two. We will have a two-week window to complete the assessments for Writing, Language Conventions, Reading and Numeracy. This assessment window will open on Tuesday, 11 May and finish on Friday, 21 May. St Cecilia's has allocated the following school dates for NAPLAN testing:

	<b><u>Year 3</u></b>	<b><u>Year 5</u></b>
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<i>Writing (written) – 9:00am</i>	<i>Writing (online) – 11:15am</i>
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<i>Reading – 9:00am Conventions of Language - 11:15am</i>	<i>Reading – 9:00am Conventions of Language – 12:00pm</i>
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<i>Numeracy – 9:00am</i>	<i>Numeracy – 11:15am</i>
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<i>Catch up testing</i>	

## **FAMILY HARDSHIPS**

At present we have families in our community experiencing some family hardship. We would appreciate any donations of perishable foods, unused hygiene products or bought frozen meals if you are able to assist, please leave items at the office or hand them over to Mrs Daniel on a Tuesday or Friday (her days of work). Unfortunately, we cannot accept homemade meals due to safety, health and hygiene protocols not being able to be assured.

## **UNIFORM SHOP**

Attached is the price list for second hand uniform pricing, which can be purchased from the school with the following process:

Send an email titled '*Uniform Shop Order for \_\_\_\_\_ (insert Child's name)*' to [scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au) with the following information included in your email:

1. Request type of uniform, size and quantity required.
2. Record total payment to be made.

Simone O'Connor has kindly offered to continue her work with assembling the Uniform Shop orders, whilst we navigate new arrangements for opening the uniform shop for parents to access. Once your order is complete you will be contacted by the admin staff to come collect and pay for your order at the Office. Non-Cash payments are preferred.

### **UNIFORM SHOP (PRICE LIST AS AT 07/05/18)**

#### **NEW ITEMS**

\$45.00	Back Pack
\$20.00	Hats
\$15.00	Library Bags

#### **USED ITEMS**

##### *Summer*

\$2.00	Boys blue short sleeve shirt
\$3.00	Boys grey shorts
\$3.00	Girls dress
\$2.00	Girls white short sleeve shirt (Yr 6)

##### *Winter*

\$4.00	Boys blue long sleeve shirt
\$7.00	Boys grey trousers
\$8.00	Girls winter tunics (K-5)
\$7.00	Girls navy blue trousers
\$4.00	Girls white long sleeve shirt
\$7.00	Girls skirt (Yr 6)
\$5.00	Jacket (w/zip)
\$5.00	Pull over jumper (w/out zip)

##### *Sport*

\$3.00	Sports shirt
\$3.00	Sports shorts
\$3.00	Sports skirt
\$5.00	Tracksuit pants

##### *Other*

\$0.50	Socks
\$3.00	Used hats
\$8.00	Used bags

## **EARLY DEPARTURES OR LATE ARRIVALS**

There appears to be a fair amount children leaving school early for unexplained reasons and sometimes for certain specialist classes or appointments (this does not include medical interventions such as OT, Speech etc.) on a regular basis, without Principal's leave granted.

Leaving school half an hour early one day a week equates to 300minutes a term, which is a whole day of school missed each term, equating to 4 days a year. If continued throughout a child's whole primary schooling years that would result in 28 days of missing school.

This is always a challenging topic to address but one that does require Principal's discretion to grant leave. Therefore, I do ask, if you have a child leaving early on a regular basis, you must write to the myself, the Principal to request permission to do so.

For further parent reference regarding this matter, I would like to refer to a section from the CSBB Procedures for the Management of Student Attendance.

## **12. STUDENTS ATTENDING PRIVATE LESSONS DURING SCHOOL HOURS**


- 1.1 *Involvement in private lessons, such as ballet and music classes that are conducted by outside agencies either on or off the school site during school hours, may not be conducive to the effective operation of the school or to the education of the student concerned. Student involvement in extra-curricular activities should be limited to outside school hours.*
- 1.2 *Where attendance at a private lesson during school hours is of exceptional importance such as sitting examinations, principals may use their discretion in justifying the absence. This provision must not be used on a regular basis. If the absence is justified by the principal, the principal can use code 'F' (if the absence is not included) or code 'L' (if the absence is to be included).*
- 1.3 *If parents withdraw their children from school for private lessons when permission to do so has been refused, an unjustified absence should be recorded (code 'A').*

### Learning Every Day Counts

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓  
MON TUE WED THU FRI

#### Absences add up!

Being 10 minutes late per day can lead to 6 days missed per year.




Missing 2 days of school a month means over 1 entire year of missed learning in a child's school life.

Missing 2 days of school a month = Missing more than 1 year of learning over 13 years

#### Good habits begin early

Be on time each and every day.




Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets your child up for success in school life.

#### What parents can do


- Be firm. Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- Develop good sleep and morning routines
- Schedule appointments after school
- Avoid taking holidays during term time
- Limit screen time

#### Schools are there to help

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.



Additional resources  
[www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au/schools/attendance](http://www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au/schools/attendance)



**ATTEND MORE,  
LEARN MORE,  
BE MORE...**

Kind Regards

Marta Chylewska  
(Principal)