

St Cecilia's Catholic School

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30th November, 2022,

Dear Families,

Thank you for the wonderful turn out to last night's Christmas concert by Drew Lane. After having to postpone this concert from last year, it was touching to see the community come together and have so many family members supporting the children at the school. A special thank you to the staff and children for the hours of practice they put into the preparation of this event.

A final thankyou to the organiser of the event, Mrs Jamie Dowling whose undeterred vision, hard work and passion for bringing music-making to all enabled our children, staff and families to experience the joy of song and music at St Cecilia's. We really appreciate everyone making time in your busy schedule to watch your children perform.

END OF YEAR MASS incl. END OF YEAR AWARDS

A reminder that our End of Year Mass is fast approaching and will take place on Monday 12th December starting at 9:30am. Following the mass, we will distribute our End of Year Awards. The End of Year Awards are outlined on our school website under [Awards and Acknowledgements - St Cecilia's Wyong \(scwdbb.catholic.edu.au\)](http://www.scwdbb.catholic.edu.au) and we ask that you keep it to yourself if you have received a Compass notification that your child will be receiving an award.

PARENT EDUCATION COORDINATOR

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Joanne Helm as the Parent Engagement Coordinator ('PEC') to work at St Cecilia's from 2023. Jo is currently the Parish Coordinator at Wyong Parish and will continue part of her role at the Parish and then three days a fortnight at school.

The Parent Engagement Coordinator will support me and the staff as we implement strategies to strengthen relationships between parents/carers, the school and wider parish community. In practice, the PEC will facilitate, coordinate, and communicate with parents/carers to encounter, and engage with, the wider school and parish community, with a focus on wellbeing and learning for all students and families.

The PEC will play a crucial role in building and maintaining a welcoming school environment and building sound, respectful relationships between the school, parents/carers, parent bodies, Broken Bay Catholic School Parent association and the wider school and parish community.

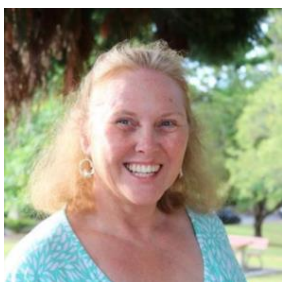
This role was to replace the role of Family Liaison Officer (FLO) from the beginning of 2023, however we have carefully considered any gaps in service as we transition to this PEC staffing model and have taken steps to ensure these are addressed, which means Natasha Harman, our FLO, will remain with us to continue her great work.

FURTHER 2023 STAFF INTRODUCTIONS



Mrs Kiddle will be joining two days a week in Year 3 with Mrs Adcock. She joins us from St Brendan's, Lake Munmorah as an experienced, enthusiastic and passionate teacher with 12 years of full-time teaching experience.

Mrs Kiddle is a *Seesaw Ambassador* and integrates technology to maximise any learning opportunity for students. She is constantly looking into new and innovative ways to employ technology into her own teaching practice.



Mrs White will be working one day a week in Year 6 with a further commitment to assist with casual employment. Mrs White brings extensive teaching experience across all grades in a variety of different schools. Her previous role was full-time permanent teacher at St. Brendan's Primary School, Lake Munmorah.

Mrs White is a passionate educational professional with 35 years' experience, with a particular passion pursued in Learning Support, Science & Technology, and Sustainability in Outdoor Education. Her teaching delivery is aimed at catering for all diversity of learners through the integration of technology and enthusiastically promoting inquiry-based learning.

Her philosophy of education is directed towards the encouragement of students' learning, positive reinforcement and maintaining effective community dialogue.

We look forward to welcoming both new staff members as part of the professional learning here at St Cecilia's.

2023 CLASSES

CLASS	TEACHER/S
<i>KINDY BLUE</i>	<i>Mrs Rebecca Haynes</i>
<i>KINDY GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Claire Garth</i>
<i>1 BLUE</i>	<i>Miss Sarah McEwan</i>
<i>1 GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Annette Milne (Mon & Tues) & Mrs Tori Jones (Wed – Fri.)</i>
<i>2 BLUE</i>	<i>Mrs Rebecca Ross</i>
<i>2 GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Mikaela Scott (M-W) & Mrs Tenille Callaghan (Th. & Fri)</i>
<i>3 BLUE</i>	<i>Mrs Emily Adcock (M-W) and Mrs Kate Kiddle (Th. & Fri)</i>
<i>3 GOLD</i>	<i>Mr Patrick Murton</i>
<i>4 BLUE</i>	<i>Mrs Michaela Doughty</i>
<i>4 GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Sylvanna Jordan</i>
<i>5 BLUE</i>	<i>Mrs Sarah Xuereb</i>
<i>5 GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Jamie Dowling & Mrs Tenille Callaghan (Wed.)</i>
<i>6 BLUE</i>	<i>Miss Molly Clancy</i>
<i>6 GOLD</i>	<i>Mrs Chloe Harrison & Mrs Bridget White (Fri.)</i>

All the children will be given the opportunity to meet their new class teacher at step-up morning on Thursday 15th December.

As mentioned in last week's Principal's Update, we have begun some transition processes where required for individuals or groups of students.

LAST DAY FOR CANTEEN SERVICE WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER

Wednesday 14th December will be the last day for canteen orders and service. There will be **NO CANTEEN** on Friday 16th December.

PLASTIC FREE TUESDAY

Please do not forget that Year 4 are continuing their 'Plastic Free' Tuesday initiative. Therefore, please minimise your single use plastic foods on Tuesdays.

FRIDAY'S AWARD ASSEMBLY

Don't forget to join us at this Friday morning's awards assembly, which will include our Let Your Light Shine Awards too. Assembly starts at 8:45am and award recipients are listed below.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Last chance to get your St Vincent De Paul donations in this week. All donations are to be brought into the child's classroom.



The poster features the St. Cecilia's Wyong school crest in the top left corner, which includes a shield with a cross and the motto 'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'. A large red ribbon is draped across the top. The main title 'St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal' is in white text on a blue background. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text and a date range '14th Nov - 30th Nov'. At the bottom left is a colorful Christmas tree made of small icons. To the right is a table with four rows and two columns listing donation items for different school stages.

Kindergarten	Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2)
Cereal (small boxes) Tinned vegetables/Jelly/Jam/Shampoo/Conditioner	Tea/Coffee/Long-life milk/Milo Hot chocolate
Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)	Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6)
Tinned fruit/Muesli bars/ Packet chips/Savoury&Sweet biscuits	Custard (long life/1 litre)/Christmas cake/pudding/Fruit mince pies/Body wash

COVID

The dreaded COVID is again doing the rounds with staff and students falling ill with a mixed bag of symptoms from extremely mild (almost nothing) to bed ridden. Please continue to test if your child displays symptoms and we ask that they are symptom free when coming to school. We only have a few weeks left before the school year is out and it would be lovely for the children to be able to finish the year with their 2022 class teacher rather than the staff and their peers being absent from falling ill. With the shortage of casual teachers, it has also been difficult some days to cover staff who may be sick so thank you to all who are assisting in keeping our community safe and healthy.

For further information about COVID guidelines for schools, please read:

[Advice for families \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/health-and-care/services-and-support/covid-19/schools)

IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 8, TERM 4

Sat. 3rd December

Choir performing at Palmdale at 10am

WEEK 9, TERM 4

Mon. 5th December

Tues. 6th December

Thurs. 8th December

Fri. 9th December

WELLBEING WEEK

Year 6 Graduation starting at 5pm – 8pm

Bright Beginnings – Santa's Workshop 9:30 – 10:30am

School Captain Speeches in the hall at 9am

1-5 Swimming Carnival & Water Fun Day at school for Kindy & Year 6

Last day of K-2 Swim Program

WEEK 10, TERM 4

Mon. 12th December

Tues. 13th December

Wed. 14th December

Thurs. 15th December

Fri. 16th December

End of Year K-6 School Mass @ 9:30am in the hall, including
END OF YEAR AWARDS (may possibly move to outdoors)

Advent/Christmas Prayer @ 8:45 am in Assembly Area

Stage 3 Surf Safety Day @ Toowoomb Bay

Stage 2 Surf Safety Day @ Toowoomb Bay

Step up Morning with child's teacher for 2023

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2022 & Year 6 Bell ringing.

Kind Regards,

Marta Chylewska

(Principal)

From the REC

ADVENT IS HERE!

On the 20th of November, we celebrated the Solemnity of Christ the King. The Feast of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, to remind Catholics (and the world generally) that Jesus Christ is the Lord of the Universe, both as God and as Man. This feast also draws to a close the Church year.

Last Sunday, the 27th of November, was the first Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year. As such, it invites us to new beginnings, to revitalisation and renewal in our faith and in our spiritual life. It is a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

This year's St Cecilia's Christmas concert highlighted our renewal in our Catholic faith as a school community. Thank you for being part of our 2022 celebration!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL END OF YEAR CELEBRATION!



PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER AT OUR SPECIAL END OF YEAR MASS
ON MONDAY, 12TH OF DECEMBER AT 9:30AM, SCHOOL HALL
FOLLOWING THE MASS WILL BE OUR
END OF YEAR AWARDS CEREMONY

COME HELP DECORATE THE

CHRISTMAS TREE

FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO COME AND HELP
DECORATE THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE

St John Fisher Mass Ctr on
Sunday 27th November at the 5pm Mass
followed by a sausage sizzle

or

St Cecilia's Church on
Sunday 4th December at the 9.30am Mass
followed by morning tea

Children will be invited to join the
Children's Liturgy and make some
decorations for the Christmas Tree



HELP NEEDED St Cecilia's Church

St Cecilia's is desperately needing more volunteers for our Church cleaning roster. The upkeep of our Church is very important. You would only be required for 1 hour every 5 to 6 weeks. Could you please consider volunteering. Thank you. Kay 0419 021 214

God Bless

Jamie Dowling

Religious Education Coordinator

Library News

Coding competition winner

Congratulations to Keithen Lidgard from Year 5 who was successful in winning a major prize in Code Club Australia's Moonhack Project.

The judges' comments were very impressive.

Our panel of judges for this project looked closely at all submissions. Their reasons for selecting this project as the winner are below.

- ***This was my absolute favourite as they have added backgrounds that add cultural meaning to the story.***
- ***I love how they have used their own voice to tell the story. This adds meaning to the project and it made me listen closely.***
- ***There were some great elements added into the project. The moving water in particular was an excellent use of costumes to create movement.***

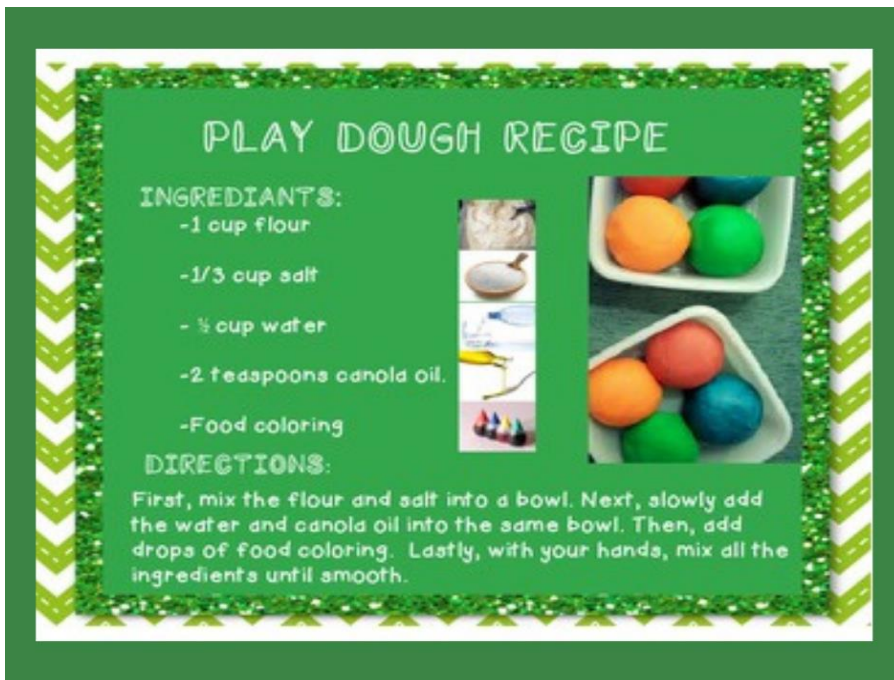
Thank you for submitting this project and congratulations!

St Cecilia's is very proud of you Keithen.

**Virginia Cumming
Teacher Librarian**



Benefits of Playdough



Benefits:

Motivates children to explore its sensory qualities.

Strengthens small fingers, hands and wrists.

Builds children's imagination as they play with it, creating as they wish.

Developing self-esteem - no right or wrong to play.

It's calming and helps children relieve stress through their hands – also add some essential oils like lavender for the calming affect.

If the playdough mix is too runny – add more flour. If the mix is too dry – add more water.

Store in an airtight bag/container in the fridge and check it often for mould as it will only last a couple of days to a week.

What Playdough Teaches Kids

Fine Motor Skills: This helps in your children's hands develop the strength, dexterity, and control needed to manipulate everyday items such as scissors, pencils, zippers, and buttons.

How can Playdough help my child develop fine motor skills? Playdough is one of the best for this. Children mould, flatten, squish, pinch, break and roll the substance. To develop fine motor control even further, give your child extra utensils to play with such as cutters, plastic knives, and a rolling pin.

Can Playdough help children learn to write at school? Children need to develop their finger muscles and have proper finger control before they can learn to write at school. During the preschool years, they develop these muscles through a variety of play activities. Playdough is one of the best for this.

Socioemotional Skills: Playdough provides a lot of open-ended opportunities for children to experience independent and cooperative play. In both styles of play, children are exploring abilities, life experiences, and emotions. During play with others (either an adult or child) children are learning about cooperation, collaboration, self-control, and friendships.

Creativity: From dramatic play to initiating and creating whatever your child's imagination can come up with, playdough is a fantastic outlet. Playdough can be anything!

Language and Literacy: As children discuss what they are creating or their sensory experiences they are expanding their vocabulary. As you ask your child questions they are learning to listen. There are so many different ways children learn comprehension, listening, and communication skills through playing with playdough.



Science and Math: Trial and error, creating shapes, comparing sizes – just simply playing with playdough exposes kids to a vast array of math and science concepts.

Sensory Benefits of Play Dough

Hand Strengthening: Squishing, smashing, pushing, pulling, twisting, cutting...all the fun of playdough. Just the basic act of playing with playdough builds those hands muscles. Playdough also comes in a variety of different consistencies some of which require more strength than others to manipulate making it fairly easy to meet individual needs.

Proprioceptive: Pushing in cookie cutters or toys, pulling back a rolling pin, or even just squeezing a very stiff dough all provide deep pressure input for your child's joints.

Sensorimotor: Ever just sit there and squeeze/roll around a ball of play dough in your hands while your child sat there and played? A lot like a stress ball, play dough is a stress reliever. And this works for your kids too!

Tactile: Everything about playdough at the most basic level is about exploring using the tactile sensory system. From textures to consistencies, to toys and items used, playdough is all about hands-on exploration.

Olfactory: Adding scents to playdough is ridiculously easy and one of our favourite things to do!



I will be running a workshop for parents and children on how to make playdough together. Stay tuned for more information

Tash Harman
Family Liaison Officer (FLO)

Awards and Acknowledgements



*Congratulations to the following students for their achievements
Awards Assembly will be this Friday at 8.45am*

Academic Achievement

Kinder Blue	Oscar M	Kinder Gold	Skyla M
1 Blue	Harrison F	1 Gold	Archer W
2 Blue	Eva W	2 Gold	Lara S
3 Blue	Taylor G	3 Gold	Isabella S
4 Blue	Hartley R	4 Gold	Taylah A
5 Blue	Alison W	5 Gold	Joel H
6 Blue	Rory W		
CAPA	India T 6B	Japanese	Patrick M 2B

Personal Best

Kinder Blue	Bella W	Kinder Gold	Teddy J
1 Blue	Ava S	1 Gold	Luka M
2 Blue	Ciara H	2 Gold	Parker G
3 Blue	Lucas R	3 Gold	Annabelle L
4 Blue	Miller W	4 Gold	Oliver K
5 Blue	Liam W	5 Gold	Troy L
6 Blue	Samuel M		
CAPA	Isabella S 6B	Japanese	Elijah D 3B
Library	Grace B 3B	Library	Riley D 1G

PBL Award

Kinder Blue	Fletcher B	Kinder Gold	Claudia S
1 Blue	Violet H	1 Gold	Lena G
2 Blue	Cooper K	2 Gold	Iona M
3 Blue	Leviathan T	3 Gold	Fernando A
4 Blue	Nehemiah R	4 Gold	Oliver L
5 Blue	Sophy N	5 Gold	Izabele M
6 Blue	Grace C		
CAPA	Savannah O 6B	Japanese	Lillian N 3B

Principal's Light of Learning Award

Kinder Blue: Anastasia G

For always displaying the St Cecilia's school values and trying her best in everything she attempts

Kinder Gold: Tomas J

For being an engaged learner and keen participant in all Learning Areas, sharing his vast knowledge on many topics

1 Blue: Maggie G

Maggie has let her light shine this year. She has shown kindness to others by never seeing a need without doing something about it

1 Gold: Kijara M

For always applying herself to her classwork and displaying a persistent attitude

2 Blue: Taj S

For always displaying a happy, kind and caring attitude towards his peers and his learning

2 Gold: Nikolas Y

For being a kind and helpful member of 2 Gold. Thank you for always following our school rules and helping make our classroom a happy place

3 Blue: Lincoln B

For being a polite, respectful and courteous member of our class. Thank you for always being so helpful and for doing it with a smile on your face

3 Gold: Ashton B

For always striving to do his best and pushing himself academically

4 Blue: Mia C

For the amazing effort and dedication she puts into all of her learning. All whilst being a kind, considerate and respectful friend to all members of 4 Blue

4 Gold: India C

For her gentle, friendly nature and willingness to give everything a go, using her positive mindset

5 Blue: Keithen L

For showing kindness, respect and compassion towards others. Thank you for making your peers and teacher smile

5 Gold: Levi B

For trying his best and making smart choices at our recent Bathurst excursion. We are really proud of you Levi

6 Blue: Keely W

For showing extensive maturity and kindness as a year 6 role model. You have grown into a wonderful leader and everyone at St Cecilia's appreciates you

Community Bank
Wyong



You're invited

Wyong Community Christmas Carols

Free community event

- Performances by local Schools & Dance Groups
- Bring your picnic rug & chair
- Local Cafes & Restaurants will be open plus the Rotary BBQ tent
- Fireworks at 8.45pm
- A visit from Santa is expected!
- This is a Alcohol & Smoke Free Family event

When Saturday 3 December

Time 5.30 – 9.00pm

Where Alison Road - Wyong CBD

B Bendigo Bank

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