



St Cecilia's Catholic School

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15th December 2022

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year has arrived! How quickly these last 11 months have passed!

The year's end always brings with it a tremendous sense of accomplishment. In 2022, we introduced a range of new enrichment programs, coding, restarted the swimming program and Peer Support groups post Covid. Our new Leadership Teams in Year Six were established, our first ever Techmatics Day took place, the children co-wrote a school newspaper, reading and lunch Buddies were formed. We had our School Musical, the Talent Quest, Shine Awards were introduced, our FLIP parent meetings took off, and teachers were given ongoing opportunities for Collaborative Coaching.

From the floods that we overcame at the beginning of the year, to the end of year celebrations that have happened in this last week – our children have been involved in an extraordinary number of activities. Of course, we should not forget the tremendous amount of learning which has taken place during the year too. Throughout all these activities our children have demonstrated great character!

Our St Cecilia's children are the best! We have such a mix of children, artists, sports players, mathematicians, musicians, creative writers, carers – who knows what they will aspire to as they get older. We could be nurturing a future Prime Minister, doctor, builder, scientist, teacher, accountant, chef, vet – they will do anything they choose if they set their minds to it.

A special mention to our Year 6 graduates – Congratulations on your achievement. The St Cecilia's staff wish you all the best as you move to your new high school. If this is your last child to leave St Cecilia's, the staff and I would like to thank you for your support and guidance that you have provided for your child(ren). We look forward to hearing from the graduates in the future and we hope that each of them will have gained a firm foundation for their education while at St Cecilia's.

I am forever grateful to the wonderful team of staff at our school. They go above and beyond for our children every single day and I certainly couldn't do my job without them. I give special mention to those farewelling us, Mrs Herd, Miss Eves and Miss Poulton. We thank you for your valued contributions and wish you all the best on your new journey.

Lastly, I'd like to say a big thank you to YOU! The families who constantly support us, who believe in what we are doing, who tell us how much they love our school and who get the children to school on time every day. This has been a big year and I hope you all get to spend Christmas with those you love, have fun, relax and above all, make special memories.

Some final mentions...

END OF YEAR MASS AND AWARDS CEREMONY

It was lovely to have so many parents, carers and grandparents attend our End of Year celebrations this Monday. The Mass was beautiful and thankfully the storm held off so we could acknowledge the End of Year award recipients from each class.

	ACADEMIC PROGRESS	ST CECILIA'S AWARD	ACE AWARD	DISCIPLESHP AWARD
KINDY BLUE	John H.	Isabella S.	Oscar M.	Eli P
KINDY GOLD	Finn I.	Claudia S.	Rafael R.F.	Jackson M
1 BLUE	Arlo W.	Claire G.	Benji I.	Maggie G.
1 GOLD	Lilly-Mae T.	Lena G.	Katelyn C.	Indie A.
2 BLUE	Jimmy A.	Ruby B.	Eva W.	Malachi E.
2 GOLD	Ivy C.	Iona Mc.	Ruby N.L	Catherine B.
3 BLUE	Lillianna G.	Taylor G.	Miranda T.	Laila F.
3 GOLD	Avayah Y.	Ashton B.	Finn Mc.	Sophia C.
4 BLUE	Bonnie T-W.	Asha D.	Tamryn H.	Miller W.
4 GOLD	Zac S.	Zachary T.	Frances Mc.	Sam T.
5 BLUE	Caleb C.	Pandora M.	Logan H.	Abigail S.
5 GOLD	Ciera H.	Kenzi G.	Indie G.	Izabele Mc.
6 BLUE	Aditi P.	Keely W.	Indiana L.	Hayley L./Linh P

This year we decided to award the winners with a book as a keepsake in addition to the regular certificate they have always received. I'd like to thank the Meany family who generously donated many of the books awarded to children and an immense gratitude to Mrs Cumming for thoughtfully purchasing additional books and preparing the books so beautifully for the presentation ceremony.

FREDRIC OZANAM AWARD

Separate to the End of Year school awards we gave out our annual *Blessed Frederic Ozanam Award for Commitment to Social Justice* is an initiative of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Sydney. It aims to recognise departing Year 6 students who have demonstrated a significant contribution and commitment to social justice and community service throughout their primary school years.

The award is named after the founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, who at the young age of 20, not only gave much of his time to serve the poor but was also very active in striving for social justice through education and formation programs.

This special award was rewarded to **Beau Moore** and **Savannah O'Connor**. Congratulations to both children for their strong sense of justice for all and for demonstrating their commitment to community service. We are very proud of you both.

STEP UP MORNING

Today the children were given the opportunity to meet their new class teacher at step-up morning, taking place from 9am – 10:30am. Most of our new staff attended in person or via a Zoom or video to meet their 2023 class. The children also received their Stationery lists in the Step-Up morning, and these can also be accessed online at the school website under [Parent Information - 2023 Class Requirements](#)

As previously mentioned, some transition processes, where required for individuals or groups of students have already been taking place for some children to help familiarise and prepare some children for the upcoming change.

Much time and consultation has gone into assigning teachers to a specific grade and group of children. There is much to consider... learning needs, social and emotional wellbeing, friendship groups, as well as teacher talents and gifts. As a school we consider the wellbeing of all our children and make the best possible choices for the students as they present. Thank you for your support and trust in the decisions made.

MATHEMATICAL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW (MAI)

Once classes are confirmed at Step Up morning and your child comes home to tell you their class teacher, Compass bookings for the Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI) will open after 4pm today. Please schedule your child in for a suitable time to sit their one-to-one assessment with their new 2023 classroom teacher. The MAI's will take place on Monday 30th January from 8:30am – 4:30pm.

BEST START ASSESSMENTS

Similarly, all the Best Start Assessments will be available for booking via Compass from tomorrow Friday 16th. Kindergarten Best Start Assessments will take place over three days

from Monday 30th January – Wednesday 1st February. Kindergarten 2023 will have their first day of school on Thursday 2nd February.

FRIDAY'S AWARD ASSEMBLY

Our final Friday morning's assembly will still take place at 8:45am this week. It will include the Personal Best, Academic Achievement and PBL Award. We will also distribute the Bronze Awards for Shine Awards collected.

SHINE AWARDS

My sincerest congratulations to the following children who have received a Bronze Award for accumulating 20 Shine Awards since the Award system was implemented halfway through term three. What a huge accomplishment, which will be recognised at tomorrow morning's assembly at 8:45am with special recognition given to:

-  Claudia S (Kindy Gold)
-  Scarlett B (Kindy Gold)
-  Indie A (1 Gold)
-  Archer W (1 Gold)
-  Benji I (1 Blue)
-  Zac S (4 Gold)
-  Frances Mc (4 Gold)

There are several other children who are also very close to receiving their Bronze Award. Parents, in your Compass app you can see how many Shine Awards your child has earned. Many children are only one, two Shine Awards off from their Bronze Award, these awards will be rolled over to the following year, meaning their Bronze Award is not far out of reach. I am very proud of our first recipients who have truly shown consistent efforts to remain a respectful, safe, and cooperative learner at St Cecilia's.

REPORTS ON COMPASS

As mentioned last week in the Principal's Update, school reports are now open and accessible on Compass if you have not yet had a look.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

I would like to refer you to last week's [Principal Update](#) as a reminder for black, darker coloured or white sneakers (no high tops) to wear with Sport Uniform. ***Children are not to wear brightly coloured sneakers.*** Black leather shoes for normal uniform.

Jewellery – Children are only permitted to wear a watch and a cross on a chain, under their shirt. One plain stud or sleeper earring per ear.

Hair should be always neat and tidy and off the face. Girls with shoulder length hair or longer must tie it back with school uniform coloured hair ties or ribbons **ONLY**. Nail polish is not to be worn.

BELL RINGING

Tomorrow we will host our annual bell ringing and guard of honour for our Year 6 leavers and any other departing families. In addition to our departing Year 6 families, we say goodbye and good luck to the Arifu, Kinghorne, McBride, Bakker, Campbell and Buys family. Many of these families are moving out of the area and beginning new and exciting journeys elsewhere. We wish them all the best on their new ventures. The bell ringing ceremony will take place at 2:40pm. All parents welcome!

PARTING WORDS FOR THE YEAR

On this second last school day for all our children in 2022, we stop to draw breath. It has been an event filled year and busy year, as we were able to bounce back after an interrupted 2021. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our St Cecilia's community a well-deserved break, where we all have the chance to recharge and be kind to ourselves and one another. For the staff and me, that includes some sleep-ins and the chance to reconnect with our families and friends.

On behalf of the staff at St Cecilia's, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school after the break.

May God bless you and keep you and your families safe these holidays.

Kind Regards

Marta Chylewska

LOST PROPERTY

If anyone owns any of these lost property items, please email the school.



IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 1, TERM 1

Mon. 30th January	Grades 1-6 Mathematical Assessment Interviews (BOOKINGS on COMPASS)
Tues. 31st January	Kindergarten 2023 Best Start Assessments Grades 1 – 6 First Day back at school for 2023
Wed. 1st February	Kindergarten 2023 Best Start Assessments (BOOKINGS on COMPASS)
Thurs. 2nd February	Kindergarten's first day back at school.

From the FLO

Identify Your Self Nourishing Acts

Self-Nourishing Acts (SNAs) are activities that help you to recalibrate, relax and renew your energy and experience pleasure in your life.

As parents, we wear so many hats and now with the school holidays upon us, it's important to look after ourselves even more to ensure we can keep up with our kids.

If we can start to schedule time in for ourselves, not only are we showing our kids that they are not the only ones alive (they often forget that others NEED things too) but we are ensuring we are parenting from a full cup. To preserve our health and well-being we would benefit from scheduling regular SNAs rather than waiting until the holidays to recharge. The following is a list intended to help you identify your SNAs. It isn't exhaustive but is intended to prompt.

Have a beautiful Christmas and a wonderful, safe and happy New Year.

Exercise	Other	Key points
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Beach o Bush o River o Dog 2. Run 3. Gym 4. Bike ride 5. Yoga / Pilates 6. Play a team sport 7. Golf 8. Tennis 9. Stretch 10. Other _____ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o pod cast o music playlist o audio book 2. Hang out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o with friends o with partner o with family o with pet 3. Phone a friend 4. Café Coffee 5. Gardening 6. Veggie patch 7. Plan a holiday 8. Make a bucket list 9. Plan a date night 10. Cook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Meals in advance 	<p>Self Nourishing Acts help you to recalibrate and relax.</p> <p>SNAs are personal.</p> <p>SNAs should be things you love to do and make you feel good after.</p>
Hobbies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Craft e.g., scrap booking, calligraphy 		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Handicraft <i>e.g., knit, crochet</i> 3. Paint or draw 4. Play an instrument 5. Photography 6. Crossword puzzle or sudoku 7. Other _____ <p>Self-Care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hair cut 2. Manicure 3. Facial 4. Day Spa 5. Bath 6. Nap 7. Meditate 8. Moisturize 9. Massage 10. Gratitude list 11. Face mask 12. Digital detox 13. Diffuse essential oils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Favorite meal o Bake o New recipe o MasterChef meal <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Favorite TV show o Binge watch a series o Movie o Sport o Inspiring TED talk 12. Volunteer 13. Help someone out 14. Journal 15. Write 16. Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o something for you o gifts 17. Declutter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o House o Wardrobe o Desk o Shed 18. Learn something new (<i>not related to school</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Take a course online o Watch a YouTube clip o Google it 	<p>Identify the activities that allow you to disconnect and refresh.</p> <p>Try to schedule your SNAs into your regular weeks instead of waiting for the holidays.</p>
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From the REC

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We have ended our school year with two special liturgical celebrations - Year 6 Graduation Mass and End of Year Mass. Thank you to Father Raul, Father Alex, teachers and parents for joining us in celebrating the Year Six graduating class of 2022 and our school community.



2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

WYONG PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

We are delighted that you are bringing your child to receive the Sacraments, we look forward to sharing with you and your child, this journey of faith as he/she prepares to receive this sacrament.

In Baptism, your child began a life-long journey and a way of life. At Confirmation, the graces received in Baptism were sealed with the reception of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. First Eucharist completes their reception of the Sacraments of Initiation into the Christian life.

The Family plays a central role in the faith formation of children, and as parents, you are your child's primary teacher as he/she develops a relationship with the person of Christ and his Church. We are also grateful to the grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles, older siblings, other relatives, and family friends who undertake this role.

As family, friends, parish personnel, teachers, and volunteers work with the children in the activity of preparing them for the sacraments, the Holy Spirit inspires and draws them into the relationship with Christ. It is a sacred time and we encourage you to enter this process whole-heartedly with the children as they prepare to receive this sacrament.

Wyong Parish will be commencing their Sacramental Program for 2023 in February. Please contact the Parish Office on 0424 763 734 to make arrangements for your child to receive instruction for Confirmation, Reconciliation, and First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent information night.

RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION

Parent Information night 7 pm Tuesday 21st February St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 25th /26th February

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Reconciliation Ceremony.

Reconciliation Ceremony Tumby Monday 20th March 4 pm

Reconciliation Ceremony Wyong Tuesday 21st March 4 pm

CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 3 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED

Parent Information night 7 pm Tuesday 30th May St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 3rd /4th June

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Confirmation Ceremony

Confirmation Ceremony St Peters College Saturday 15th July

FIRST EUCHARIST FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION & RECONCILIATION

Parent Information night 7 pm Tuesday 8th August St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 12th/13th August

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the First Eucharist Ceremony

First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 8th September St John Fisher Mass Ctr 5 pm and 6.30 pm

First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 15th September St Cecilia's Church 5 pm and 6.30 pm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO OUR BEAUTIFUL ST CECILIA'S COMMUNITY

As we draw close to the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom, both at school and at home. For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced.

For the hard times that we have overcome together.
For the respect and care that has been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.

For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,
For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days,
and for the love that has kept us going.

We give thanks for our community.

We ask you Lord - Bless our students as they finish up this challenge year that we have overcome together. May your Spirit continue to inspire them with confidence and calmness through these last few weeks together and then into the school break.

Bless our families as we prepare to take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish. Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together. We make this prayer through Christ our lord. Amen.

God Bless

Jamie Dowling

Religious Education Coordinator

Awards and Acknowledgements



Congratulations to the following students for their achievements
Academic Achievement

Kinder Blue	Abigail K	Kinder Gold	Scarlett O
1 Blue	Yu Han Y	1 Gold	Ruby Lou S
2 Blue	Sama G	2 Gold	Macie R
3 Blue	Natalia S	3 Gold	Duncan C
4 Blue	Jayden M	4 Gold	Lizzy N
5 Blue	Keaton J	5 Gold	Oliver A
6 Blue	Matthew B		
CAPA	Isaac R 6B	Japanese	Caleb C 5B

Personal Best

Kinder Blue	Aydin P	Kinder Gold	Caiden P
1 Blue	George C	1 Gold	Ben L
2 Blue	Quinn R	2 Gold	Spencer T
3 Blue	Leon I	3 Gold	Emelia J
4 Blue	Noah M	4 Gold	Will C
5 Blue	Pandora M	5 Gold	Imogen V
6 Blue	Sienna C		
CAPA	Elsie P KB	Japanese	Zachary L 1B
Library	Luka M 1G	Library	Natalia S 3B

PBL Award

Kinder Blue	Elsie P	Kinder Gold	Ajay B
1 Blue	Samantha M	1 Gold	Sienna T
2 Blue	Coby F	2 Gold	Charlotte T
3 Blue	Aaliyana A	3 Gold	Charlotte S
4 Blue	Asher D	4 Gold	Oliver L
5 Blue	Beau G	5 Gold	Nicholas S
6 Blue	Riley S		
CAPA	Alisha P 4G	Japanese	Taylor G 3B