



St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School
15 Panonia Road WYONG NSW 2259
Phone: 02 4353 2922
Email: scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.scwdbb.catholic.edu.au

8th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME BACK to all St Cecilia's children, staff, and families. It has been wonderful to have all the children back this week, enjoying catching up with their teachers and friends. The focus initially, for our teachers, has been on settling the children back in, building positive relationships with them and their classmates, helping the children get back into classroom routines and reviewing expected learning behaviours. The atmosphere across the school has been buzzing with energy and all classes have very quickly settled.

I hope the transition back to school has been a smooth one for your child/ren and if not, please never hesitate to reach out via email to the school office to organise a meeting with the class teacher. We always want to work in partnership to help the children have a smooth start to their school year.

A special warm welcome to all our new Kindergarten children and families in their first full week of school. Although I missed the Kindy's first day of school and the 'Tears n' Tissues' due to tearing up myself at my little man's first day of school, I heard the first day of school was a success, with more tears from the parents than the children. A huge thank you to the amazing year 1 parents for putting on such a big spread of delicious food for morning tea, serving tea and coffee and assisting to host the 'Tears n Tissues' morning. Your warm and welcoming hospitality was felt by many. We hope to continue this new tradition in years to come.

I'd also like to extend a welcome to our 15 new children and families who have relocated to St Cecilia's across all other year levels. I hope that you will have a happy and successful time with us, gaining new experiences and making new friends.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to wish our Year 6 children a wonderful last year of primary school! This week we received the new Year 6 polo shirts, which the children designed last year. These can be purchased via the QKR app and once all shirts have been paid for the class teachers will distribute them to each child.

SHINE AWARDS

This upcoming Monday morning assembly the following children will be receiving their Bronze Shine Award: Bowen N, Zach W, Rafael R F, Kaydee C, and Tamryn H

Congratulations to these safe, cooperative and respectful children. We look forward to celebrating your achievements with you.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

A reminder that there will be no school on Thursday 9th March due to a Staff Development Day.

COMMUNICATION CHANNELS AT ST CECILIA'S

At St. Cecilia's we are committed to a partnership with parents in the education of their children. There are many forms of communication, where parents can stay informed and connect with the school. These include:

Fortnightly Newsletter: Details about anything school related. Awards, Teaching & Learning from the AP, REC news, schedule changes, updates, events, policy reminders, news, articles, community happenings...anything important and enjoyable will be included here. Each fortnight on a Wednesday the newsletter will be made available to download on the school website and through the Compass app.

Principal's Update: Every other Wednesday, upcoming 'Dates for the Diary', notices and a brief overview will be provided in the Principals' Update. This will be sent out via Compass, also available to download from the school website under [Newsletters - St Cecilia's Wyong \(scwdbb.catholic.edu.au\)](https://scwdbb.catholic.edu.au)

Compass: Updated regularly with calendar events, conferences (parent/teacher meetings), behaviour Chronicles, Shine Award notifications, class/grade or whole school information and notices. Alerts and email notifications should always come through to all primary parents and carers.

School Website: Stationery requirement lists, download versions of notes, Absence of Leave forms, enrolments and the school newsletter. We also have a new Calendar feature embedded on the website [St Cecilia's School Calendar - St Cecilia's Wyong \(scwdbb.catholic.edu.au\)](https://scwdbb.catholic.edu.au) The website is maintained to ensure current information is available.

Permission Notes: Permission notes are sent home via Compass as an **Opt-in event**. If you are unable to access the permission form, please email the front office who can supply you with a paper copy.

Email contact: All staff are accessible by email by sending correspondence to the school email account scw@dbb.catholic.edu.au Please clearly identify which teacher you wish the correspondence forwarded to.

Parent Corner Facebook Page: The Parent Corner Facebook page often has reminders of school events, information and can assist to answer any of your questions.

St Cecilia's Facebook Page: The St Cecilia's Primary School Wyong Facebook page is often updated with gallery images of events that have occurred in the school. At times upcoming events are posted too. This page is more for marketing purposes.

Parent/Teacher Meetings: Every year you will have opportunities to meet with your child's class teacher one on one. In term 1 (week 5) you will meet your child's teacher for a Goal Setting meeting. Term 2 you will have an opportunity for a follow up parent/teacher meeting regarding progress on semester one and a review of goals. Further opportunities for different grades to meet with their child's teacher are offered too.

BIRTHDAYS

At St Cecilia's, we enjoy honouring children on their birthday. We also respect families that do not want us making a big deal out of their child's birthday. We enjoy many St Cecilia's traditions that go along with acknowledging birthdays. We announce the weekly birthday children at Monday morning's assembly, classes sing the "Happy Birthday" song, and families have always had the option of bringing in treats for classmates. Please know that you do not have to send treats or gifts with your child on his or her birthday. Teachers take great pride in making your child feel special on their birthday. If you do feel the need to send something for your child to enjoy with her or his classmates, please follow the birthday guidelines below:

- Foods made at home may not be distributed within the school.
- Any food item must be individually, commercially wrapped.
- Any food item must be NUT FREE.
- Due to varying other allergies please do not send cupcakes, donuts, or sheet cakes to cut up for your child's birthday treats. These items are not individually wrapped and will be sent back home (or eaten up by staff).

If your child has any food allergies, could you please email the office to let the school know ASAP.

UNIFORM SHOP

Mrs Simone O'Connor has volunteered her time again this year to coordinate the second-hand uniform shop. If you require any items from the shop, please email simbub21@gmail.com

In your email include the following information:

1. Child's name
2. Child's class
3. Items of clothing needed
4. Size of clothing
5. Parents phone number

Simone will be available on Monday and Thursday mornings at around 9am to organise orders and stock up the second-hand shop. You will be contacted by phone or email when your order is ready to collect from the office and the total amount owing will be specified too. Orders will be held for seven days but then returned to the uniform shop if not collected.

We thank many families in advance for your generosity in donating your unwanted uniforms to the school. These are always welcomed and sold at a cheaper rate for the benefit of other parents or carers. Though we do ask that badly damaged or irreparable items not be sent in as these are not suitable for sale.

FAMILIES LEADING IN PARTNERSHIP (FLIP) MEETING DATES

Over the past year we have been fortunate enough to be able to reconvene and come back together for face to face meetings. For any new families, our parent body group is called *Families Leading in Partnership* (FLIP) and you can find out more about the structure of the parent body at the school website - [Families Leading in Partnership \(FLIP\) - St Cecilia's Wyong \(scwddb.catholic.edu.au\)](http://scwddb.catholic.edu.au)

This term we will host our **first FLIP meeting at 6:15pm in the teacher staffroom on Tuesday 28th February**. The agenda items will be shared soon. Though one of the topics will be class parents, as there were several conversations had last year to bring class parents back!

CLASS PARENTS CALL OUT!

This is a call out to any parents who would be happy to be a class parent for your child's class. The role is very simple and the more the merrier. You would act as a point of contact should anyone need help, organise a card for the teacher on their birthday (gifts are not expected) a homemade card is enough to brighten anyone's day. There are other events too that certain year groups will be asked to organise under the guidance of the P&F – Mother's Day Stall for example which will soon descend on us before we know it.

If you think you might like to get involved, click on the link below which outlines some examples of the role and enter your details if you're interested. I will be in touch personally with parents who express and interest, with a brief meeting date to discuss the role.

Don't be shy! [Expressions of interest](#) (click on the blue link) close Thursday 16th February.

Dependent on the number of Expressions of Interest per class/grade we may still choose two class parents or possibly ask you to a grade parent instead of class, should we not receive enough nominations.



Please refer to our new online school calendar on the school website. The most current and updated events information will now be on the school website or Compass.

[St Cecilia's School Calendar - St Cecilia's Wyong \(scwddb.catholic.edu.au\)](https://scwddb.catholic.edu.au)

We look forward to working with you throughout 2023 with many community events to look forward to. A positive home and school partnership is essential to ensure children feel supported to meet their full potential. We strongly believe that parents are their child's first and foremost educators, you know your children best, and we want to work with you to ensure your child/ren have a successful year at school.

Peace and blessings

Marta Chylewska
Principal

From the REC

2023 Opening School Mass

Father Alex will be celebrating our special Opening School Mass on Monday, the 13th of February in the Assembly area at 9:30am. During the Mass the school leader commissioning will take place and the blessing of Kindergarten students by their Years 5 and 6 buddies.

Shrove Tuesday

Shrove

Tuesday is both a day of spiritual preparation and celebration. Whilst it is a time to prepare for the Season of Lent, it is also a day of celebration and to feast before Lent begins. Shrove Tuesday has a variety of rituals and customs associated with it. It is popularly known as 'Pancake Day' or 'Pancake Tuesday' because many people follow the tradition of eating pancakes made from the rich foods (e.g. eggs, milk and sugar) that were previously not permitted during the Lenten fast.

At Cecilia's we will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday on the day before Ash Wednesday. In our classrooms we will be discussing how the Season of Lent is a time in which we reflect on how we can have a change of heart. We reflect on this in special ways: by prayer; by giving to our brothers and sisters in need and by fasting. When we fast, we get just a small taste of what it must be like to be hungry all the time and so we hopefully realise some of the pain of people who are marginalised in society.



*Shrove Tuesday is also an opportunity for our school community to support Project Compassion. We will be providing pancakes and are asking for the **children to bring in a cold coin donation** to support this important initiative.*



Ash Wednesday Mass

We also invite you to join us on Wednesday, the 22nd of February as we celebrate Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. A Mass will be held in our school hall at 9.30am and we are fortunate to have students from St Peter's distribute ashes to our school community. We will receive a sign of the cross on our foreheads from ashes (ashes from the blessed palms used on Palm Sunday). All are welcome!



2023 Sacramental Program

There are seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1113-1131). Sacraments are ongoing symbols of God's care for all of us.

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



Liturgical Events February

Monday, the 13th of February
Opening School Mass @ 9:30, Assembly Area

Tuesday, the 21st of February
Shrove Tuesday, Please bring a gold coin donation for Project Compassion, Caritas

Wednesday, the 22nd of February
Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9:30, School Hall

Saturday, the 25th of February
K, 5 & 6 Buddies and Reconciliation Presentation
(Year 4) Mass @ 5:00, St Cecilia's Church, Wyong

God Bless
Mrs Jamie Dowling
Religious Education Coordinator

Awards and Acknowledgements



Congratulations to the following students for their achievements

Academic Achievement

Kinder Blue	Sienna R F	Kinder Gold	Lilly G
1 Blue	Elleah C	1 Gold	Ajay B
2 Blue	Daisy K	2 Gold	Connor G
3 Blue	Catherine B	3 Gold	Kallie M
4 Blue	Finn M	4 Gold	Zach W
5 Blue	India T	5 Gold	Noah M
6 Blue	Izabele M	6 Gold	Dean H
Drama	Madeleine H 6G	Japanese	Ruby-Lou S 2G

Personal Best

Kinder Blue	Lara W	Kinder Gold	Ivy-Anna G
1 Blue	Michal C	1 Gold	Isla G
2 Blue	Arlo W	2 Gold	Archer W
3 Blue	Sienna M	3 Gold	Jaxon W
4 Blue	Laila F	4 Gold	Natalia S
5 Blue	Zachary T	5 Gold	Sam T
6 Blue	Beau S	6 Gold	Xavier S
Drama	Kaydee Co 6G	Japanese	Yu Han Y 2G
Library	Will C 5B	Library	Taylah A 5G

PBL Award

Kinder Blue	Kenzie A	Kinder Gold	Hux S
1 Blue	Jackson Y	1 Gold	Austin D
2 Blue	Riley D	2 Gold	Oliver B
3 Blue	Jimmie H	3 Gold	Elijah A
4 Blue	Hannah B	4 Gold	Ella-Rose R
5 Blue	Will C	5 Gold	Lizzy N
6 Blue	Keithen L	6 Gold	Kaylee D
Drama	Izabele M 6B	Japanese	Liam G KB