

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School

Parent Memo

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Term One, Week Six, Thursday 9 March 2023

Principal's Notes

School Leaders

This morning I had the great honour of presenting our 2023 School Leaders with the Leadership Badges. These students were selected based on general behaviour, their demonstration of leadership skills during the recent Year Six Leadership Day and the applications they completed.

This day is always a difficult one because while there are feelings of joy and elation, there are also the feelings of disappointment and heartbreak for those that did not hear their name called out. Even though we try to emphasise the notion that all the students are leaders, and without the support of their peers our nominated leaders won't be able to perform their duties effectively, we understand that at the time, it doesn't take away the hurt.

Congratulations to the following students who have been named as our Student Leaders for 2023:

School Captains – Paul Solo and Dominique Justiniani

Canty Faction Captains – Aidan Hawes and Ella-May Bin Saad

Costello Faction Captains – Jacob Vile and Lilly Leonard

Mathews Faction Captain – Thando Mahachi and Niyamah Sailor

Community Leaders – Zenith Hille, Gabrielle Justiniani and Tiffany Martin

We wish you well for the year ahead and look forward to seeing the great work you, and the leadership class, will achieve.

Student Attendance

A reminder that the school day begins at 8:30am. If your child arrives after this time, it is highly likely that the class teacher has already marked the roll so you will need to come to the office to sign your child in as late. A further reminder if your child is absent, we require written notification. This can be done using the online absentee form on our website or by email on the day of absence or a written letter on their return. Please note, this written notification needs to be completed even if you have phoned the school to give notification.

We would also like to remind parents that our supervision begins at 8:00am. There is a Before and After School Care Program that operates out of our Hall, providing structured activities and supervision for students from 6:00am-8:00am and 2:45pm-6:00pm.

Faction Swimming Carnival

Thank you to Mrs Lee-Gowland for getting our students ready for our upcoming Faction Swimming Carnival. The students have been working at perfecting their strokes and our newly elected Faction Captains are excited to lead their faction groups in their first official Captain duties. While I may have a bit of a soft spot for one faction (...Go Mathews...), we are looking forward to a day of fun and giving it a go.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will commence Week 9, the week beginning Monday 27 March. Interview times will be made via our online booking system; please do not try to book meetings until we have notified you that this is available. When attending your scheduled meeting, please ensure you are on time for your meeting and keep to the allocated time to ensure that all meetings run to schedule.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is celebrated on March 21 each year, with the first Harmony Day being in 1999. The message of Harmony Day is: Everyone belongs.

Harmony Day is a time for all Australians to remember and respect our diverse cultural backgrounds and to share what we have in common.

Here are some fascinating statistics about our diversity:

- ◆ around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- ◆ we identify with about 300 ancestries
- ◆ since 1945, more than 7.5 million people have migrated to Australia
- ◆ 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia
- ◆ apart from English, the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi
- ◆ more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.

These facts are taken from ABS 2011 Census Data.

To recognise Harmony Day at St Cecilia's, students will be encouraged to wear orange clothing or traditional dress on 21 March. Students can go head to toe with their orange or it could be as simple as a pair of orange socks or an orange ribbon; please no coloured hair spray, singlet shirts or thongs. Why orange? Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.

As a school, we will also be sharing stories. This week, students will be bringing home an activity to complete as a family. This activity gives us an idea of where we have come from through sharing stories about our language, places that are important to us, traditions and culture. Please return these sheets to your child's class teacher by Friday 17 March so they can be discussed in class.

Additionally, we will have a special Harmony Day recess and lunch order on our Canteen Menu. These items will just be for Harmony Day and will be the only items available to order on this day. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information.

Wellbeing Corner – Practicing Gratitude

Practicing Gratitude means you are regularly thinking about all the things you grateful for in your life. Research suggests that practicing gratitude can improve our mental health.

For example, I am grateful for the time spent with my family. I am grateful for the beautiful Pilbara scenery. I am grateful for the support of friends. Think about four things you are grateful for and if you feel comfortable, share your responses with a trusted friend or family member and compare your similarities and differences.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Principal

Dates to Remember

TERM ONE

WEEK 6

Friday 10 March

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

WEEK 7

Monday 13 March

Assembly 8.45am in the UCA

15 March – 24 March

NAPLAN Y3 & Y5

Friday 17 March

Faction Swimming Carnival

St Patrick's Day

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

WEEK 8

Tuesday 21 March

Harmony Day - wear orange for gold coin donation

Thursday 23 March

Assembly 8.45am in the hall

Friday 24 March

Annunciation of the Lord - whole school Mass
8.45am, Y5 lead

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

WEEK 9

Monday 27 March

Assembly 8.45am in the UCA

Parent teacher interview week

Friday 31 March

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

WEEK 10

Thursday 06 April

Holy week Processional Assembly
Starting 8.45am in the hall, Lead PP,Y1,Y3,Y4

Canteen closed

Students last day Term One

TERM TWO

WEEK 1

Wednesday 26 April

Students return to start Term Two

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

School Term Dates

Term 1: 01-02-23 to 06-04-2023

Term 2: 26-24-23 to 30-06-2023

Term 3: 18-07-23 to 21-09-2023

Term 4: 09-10-23 to 08-12-2023

Public Holidays & Pupil Free Days

& Catholic Day - No School

Friday 07 April - Good Friday

Monday 24 April - Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 25 April - Anzac Day

Friday 02 June - WA Day

Monday 17 July - Pupil Free Day

Monday 08 August - Hedland Cup

Friday 22 September - Pupil Free Day

Friday 3 November - Pupil Free Day

Monday 6 November - Catholic Day no school

Link to website term planners:

<https://www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au/calendar/>

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School P&F

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Out of School Hours Care <https://app.kidsoft.com.au/p/ChildCampusPortHedland/find-a-place>