

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School

Parent Memo

Term One, Week Six, Thursday 07 March 2024

35 Sutherland Street (PO Box 700),
Port Hedland, WA 6721
T: 08 9174 7000
E: admin@stcecilia.wa.edu.au
W: www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au
F: <http://fb.me/stceciliascps>



Principal's Notes

Leading Pedagogy

This week, Mrs Dance and myself attended a Professional Learning program at the CEWA office in Geraldton. This program will involve us engaging as learners in order to lead and guide the staff in the development of a project throughout the year that will support our students in their learning. The focus of this project, known as a spiral of inquiry, will focus on ways that we collect, analyse and reflect on data in order to enhance student engagement and improvement in the curriculum area of Mathematics. We will continue to keep you informed of this project throughout the year through the newsletter, Facebook posts and Seesaw messages.

Early Years Conference

This Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Miss Bec Hartwell, our Kindy teacher, Miss Joanne Carlos, our Pre-Primary teacher and Mrs Courtney Russell, our Year One teacher are all travelling to Perth to attend the National Early Years Conference. The Early Years Conference will allow staff to explore best practices for our youngest student's development and learning. They are looking forward to hearing from Dr Jane Merewether (PhD), a Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood and Indigenous/Cultural Studies in the School of Education at Murdoch University, plus many more leaders in the Early Childhood space. We look forward to hearing about their learning and to see how they implement it in our early childhood classrooms.

Digital Technologies Professional Learning

We thank you for allowing us to develop our learning as a whole staff, during this week's Student Free Day. Staff explored the use of iPads in the classroom to improve student learning and engagement. Staff also explored how to use Seesaw as a tool for communication about student learning between the school and home environment and focused on using technology as a tool, to cater for individual learning needs, be that support or extension. We look forward to seeing how teachers will use their learning in their teaching and learning programs.

Student Attendance

It is important that your children are attending school each day, unless illness or other extenuating circumstances prevent them from doing so. Even just one day of absenteeism can result in them missing out on learning key concepts. 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.

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.

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-8:00 and 2:45pm-6:00pm.



Faction Swimming Carnival

Thank you to Mrs Lee-Gowland for getting our students ready for our annual Faction Swimming Carnival, this year being held at Gratwick Aquatic Centre on Monday 18 March. 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, encouragement and seeing everyone just give it a go.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will commence Week 8, the week beginning Monday 18 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 of 15 minutes to ensure that all meetings run to schedule.



Harmony Day

Harmony Week is celebrated Monday 18 to Sunday 24 March each year and includes Harmony Day on Thursday 21 March. The message of Harmony Week is: Everyone belongs.

Harmony Week 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 Thursday 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 15 March so they can be discussed in class during Harmony Week.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and Seesaw messages for more information about other activities we will be undertaking to recognise Harmony Week.

Mrs Mandy Sheen
Principal

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

Dates to Remember TERM ONE WEEK 7

NAPLAN Testing Y3 & Y5

Wednesday 13 to Monday 25 March

Monday 11 March

Assembly in the UCA 8.45am

Thursday 14 March

Deja Brew Mobile Barista 7.30-8.30

Friday 15 March

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 March

First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass

Y4 & others - local mass times

WEEK 8

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Tuesday 19-3-24 to Friday 22-3-24

NAPLAN Testing Y3 & Y5

Wednesday 13 March to Monday 25 March

Monday 18 March

Faction Swimming Carnival PP to Y6 -

Gratwick Pool PH

Thursday 21 March

Assembly in the UCA 8.45am

Deja Brew Mobile Barista 7.30-8.30

Friday 22 March

Interschool Swimming Carnival

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

WEEK 9

Monday 25 March

Assembly in the UCA 8.45am

Last day NAPLAN testing Y3 & Y5

Thursday 28 March

Holy Week Processional Assembly PP,

Y4, Y1, Y3

Deja Brew Mobile Barista 7.30-8.30

Canteen closed

Ice block sales \$1.00 each

Students last day for Term One

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

School Term Dates

Term 2: 16-04-24 to 28-06-2024

Term 3: 16-07-24 to 20-09-2024

Term 4: 08-10-24 to 06-12-2024

Public Holidays & Pupil Free Days & Catholic Day

Monday 15 April - Pupil Free Day

Thursday 25 April - Anzac Day P/Holiday

Monday 03 June - WA Day P/Holiday

Monday 15 July - Pupil Free Day

Monday 12 August - Hedland Cup P/

Holiday

Monday 07 October - Pupil Free Day

Friday 04 November - Staff Catholic Day

- no school

Link to website term planners: <https://www.stcecilia.wa.edu.au/calendar/>

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School P&F

E stcecilia_pandf@outlook.com

F [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1826120767623940)

[groups/1826120767623940](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1826120767623940)