



St Cecilia's Catholic School, 59 Seaview Street, Balgowlah 2093

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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear Parents

This year don't just 'give up' for Lent.

Instead, 'take up' the challenge...and do **The Reflection**

In preparation for Easter 2010, the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference invites you to partake in an exciting and unique journey – *The Reflection*. For many of us, Lent means a time of 'sacrifice'. Often, by only focusing on 'giving up', without welcoming a whole spirituality, we can gloss over the great journey of preparation towards Easter. This coming Lent, we ask you to consider bringing to your family a gift – the opportunity to spend quality time together exploring the Scriptures of the Season. Each week during Lent the Bishops of Australia will be sharing their thoughts and reflections on the Sunday Gospels leading to Easter. This innovative program, *The Reflection*, is a free, Internet-based resource that will comprise 6 short pre-recorded segments (one for each week of Lent 2010). Each segment will follow a *lectio divina* process for the forthcoming Sunday of Lent (an exploration of the Gospel through reflection and prayer). The segments will be posted online each Monday at 7pm, starting the Monday prior to Ash Wednesday – 15 February 2010.

<http://thereflection.vividas.com>

The children are very happy attending before and after school care onsite at St Cecilia's. We call the service **OSHC**, Outside School Hours Care it is pronounced OSH as in gosh! An outside provider "Camp Australia" provides the service and equipment, employ personnel and handle accounts. Before care 7am -8.30am and after care 3.15pm - 6.15pm is offered 5 days a week. There are two carers after school - Miss Shelly 5 days, Miss Charley 3 days and another carer TBA 2 Days. Please note for security the path from Seaview St only is to be used to enter and exit OSHC. There is a late fee charged if parents pick up children after 6.15pm. I hope your children are enjoying the experience!

From next week **St Cecilia's band** practice will be resuming to a before school timeslot and children's instrument lessons will be from 9-11am.

Parents who are interested in finding out information on possibly being a member of **St Cecilia's School Board** are asked to attend an evening in the school library on Tuesday 9 March commencing at 7pm. Gail Gill from CSO will be facilitating the evening.

A vaccine is now available to protect adults and children over the age of six months from **swine flu**. NSW Health is encouraging everyone to obtain a free vaccination, available from most general practitioners of Panvax® against this potentially life threatening illness. Some community health centres and council immunisation clinics are also offering the vaccine free of charge. Immunising a high percentage of the school not only protects those individuals who receive the vaccine, but also reduces the chance that any students or staff with a weakened immune system (for whom the vaccine may not work as effectively) will be exposed to the infection. Further information <http://www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/vaccination/index.asp>

At St Cecilia's we teach our children about a fifth core value, "Celebration". The school rule is to "Celebrate our Community". The behavioural expectations are to participate and be involved, to recognise and congratulate others and to welcome others to our community. So in this spirit I look forward to meeting with parents at the **Cocktail Party** on Saturday evening and I sincerely thank the McKeown family for offering their home for the event and the Social Committee for their preparation for the celebration.

Omnibus Glorificetur Deus
In all things may God be glorified

Mrs Suellen Garey
Principal

Staff Development Day
Pupil Free
Friday 12 March

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

YRS 2 & 3 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2010 – 2011

Parents considering Confirmation for their children in Yr 2 or 3 this year, are urged to note attendance at the Enquiry/Information sessions 22,23 or 24 February 2010 are a pre-requisite for their child being accepted for Confirmation in 2010.

Full details are on the parish web site

www.northharbour.catholicau.com

Email Ricki Hayes ricki.hayes@ozemail.com.au

SCHOOL NEWS

TERM 1 DATES

February

Sat 13 P&F Cocktail Evening
Wed 17 Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15am

March

Thur 4 Peninsula Swim Carnival
Tue 9 7pm School Board Information Session
Broken Bay Swim Carnival
Fri 12 Staff Development Day
Mon 15 Catholic Schools Week & Yr 5/6 Camp
Thur 18 Yrs 3/4 Soccer Gala Day
Web 24 Yr 6 Cluster Mass
Fri 26 Fathers' Friday Yrs 2 & 4 only

LIBRARY

Quite a few children came to Library today without Library bags and forgetting to return Library books. Children must return books before they can borrow again, and I insist on Library bags to keep the books in good condition.

Library is on **WEDNESDAY** every week.

Mrs Tyte, Teacher/Librarian

READ WITH ME

Congratulations to our first Club 25 member:

CLUB 25: Elle B

Mrs Tyte, Teacher/Librarian

DRAMA

Great to see all those bright and shiny faces at Drama this week. Welcome back to all those 'old' faces and a big 'hello' to all the new ones.

Because a couple of the classes are quite large I will have to re-arrange times / days to suit the numbers. It is difficult to get around more than 15 children in 45 minutes. After tomorrow's class (Thursday) I will be in a better position to make decisions. Please note that all new students must fill in a yellow enrolment form.

Mrs Collier, Drama Teacher

P&F NEWS

P&F DATES

- Saturday 13 Feb Welcome Cocktail Party 7.30-10.30pm
- Wednesday 17 Feb Executive P&F Meeting 7.30pm
- Monday 1 March General P&F Meeting 7.30pm

P&F NEWS

Have you got your babysitter organized for Saturday night? Have you RSVPed? Food and outfit planned? Please come along to the McKeown's, for a chance to chat and relax.



This year our Cocktail Party has some changes to that of previous years. We have listened to our parents and friends over the last year and at the General P&F Meetings and tried to accommodate concerns and new ideas. This year we are introducing 'Cocktail hours', 7.30 till 10.30pm. We have sought to limit the budget whilst continuing to supply quality beer **and** wine. Please note on the back of your invite a list of catering requests.

If you haven't already done so, can you please RSVP today to K Chapman via the office. Thanks and looking forward to a fun and social night on Saturday. Below is an updated reminder.

- **Kinder and new families:** Please bring nothing but yourselves!
- **Year 1:** Please bring a bottle of wine (sparkling perhaps) instead of food
- **Year 2, 3 and 4:** Please bring a plate of food
- **Year 5/6:** Please bring a plate of food (as we finish at 10.30 and there is no tea/coffee perhaps we don't need many sweets this year)

Thank you to the Social Committee who have organized and catered several events already this term. Your generosity and welcoming smiles are very much appreciated. On behalf of all our parents and friends, in advance of the Cocktail Party, thank you for all your efforts!

An enormously huge thank you to Kerry R! Kerry has volunteered to take the P&F Treasurers' role. Kerry is currently completing the 2009 Yearbook and will therefore join the Executive team in Term Two.

Lisa W:



Thankyou to all who have returned their completed volunteer forms for the canteen. All completed forms should be returned to the office and anyone in need of a form can find spare copies at the office.

A roster will be drawn up as soon as possible. The date for the first trading day is yet to be confirmed. Watch this space each week for further details.

The existing canteen committee is working on putting together the first menu for 2010. We are desperately in need of helpers to carry out small duties that require not a lot of work but a regular commitment such as checking stock and re-ordering supplies. A fun, healthy and exciting menu is only possible with a good team behind it. We need your help. If you think you may be able to assist please see S Carter, J Eaton or P Chiswell for more information.

KINDERGARTEN MORNING TEA

Save the date Friday 26 February after school drop off. More details to follow.