Dear Parents and Students

‘The family that eats together, talks together.’

Michael Grose

Families with a strong food culture (i.e. they love food and the value of the whole eating experience) have strong bonds. Isn’t this why we all love Christmas and the lead up of social events and ‘catch ups’? Food brings people together in conversation. This whole experience is why the celebration of Christmas is so important to our families and friends.

People gathering together to celebrate the significance of others in their lives, from relatives we may not have seen for months, to our own children and families. Christmas is not only a celebration of the gift of Jesus, but also the gift of others in our lives. There is no doubt that this is the great calling for us at Christmas, to remember we are so blessed.

2011 has yet again been an incredible year in the life of St Columba’s School. Yes, it has been a busy one, that’s for sure. Thank you again for all your support throughout the year. As you all know, I love being the principal of our school, for it’s a privilege and a blessing for me. I must admit, I am looking forward to a break this Christmas and New Year period, but am very excited by the possibilities for our 2012 school year. I would like to remind you all of a couple of my key philosophising thoughts that I hope make a difference in your lives, like they have in mine:

1. Wake up each morning and move. Get moving straight up in the morning and it will switch you onto great things.
2. Once you are moving, think of all the things you are grateful for. Think of all those you love and those who love you.
3. Live each day with passion and excitement. Find something that will excite you in your day.

From the Principal’s Desk

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Important Dates*

Week 8

Thursday

8 December 2011

• Father Christmas visiting Pre-K & Kindy White
• Swimming Lessons Yrs 1 & 2
• 6-7.30pm Graduation Mass & Prize Giving—Yrs 3-6 to attend in uniform

Friday

9 December 2011

• NO Parish Mass
• Swimming Lessons Yrs 1 & 2
• Sausage Sizzle
• Reports go home
• 6-7.30pm Yr 6 Graduation Dinner

Saturday

10 December 2011

• 7:30-9:30pm Parish/School Carols Night
• Sunday

11 December 2011

• 6pm PP Christmas Concert

Week 9

Monday

12 December 2011

• 8.40am-12.30pm Years 1 & 2 Excursion: Fremantle Literacy Centre
• Dance Lessons Yrs 3-6

Tuesday

13 December 2011

• 9am Whole School Mass
• 10am Whole School Picnic—Whiteman Park

Wednesday

14 December 2011

• 3pm TERM 4 CONCLUDES FOR STUDENTS

Weekend

1 February 2012

• TERM 1 2012 COMMENCES FOR STUDENTS

Be Allergy Aware!

Families are reminded that St. Columba’s is an Allergy-friendly school. Please DO NOT bring nuts or nut by-products onto the school grounds. Some of the foods to avoid are Muesli Bars with peanuts, Nutella products, peanut butter and any other foods containing traces of nuts.

Parish Priest: Fr Minh-Thuy
Almondbury Street, Bayswater
Phone: (08)9271 1414
parish@stcolumbasbayswater.org.au

Parish Mass Times
Saturday—Vigil Mass 6.00 p.m.

Sunday—Mass 7.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.

Parish Youth Mass—Last Saturday of each month

Term 4 Dates: Tue. 18 Oct.—Wed. 14 Dec

School Times: 8.30 a.m.—3.00 p.m.

Recess: 10.30 a.m.—11.00 a.m.

Lunch: 1.00 p.m.—1.40 p.m.

*PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE PLANNER FOR REGULAR UPDATES TO THE CALENDAR
From the Principal’s Desk (continued)

4. Live your life with the thought of, ‘who will I serve today?’ Not with the worry about what may happen, or what may go wrong. Life is filled with challenges - challenges are good for the soul. See these as God building your muscles. You know when you think you have no more to give, God is going to ask for six more, because he is the greatest trainer.

5. Spend 5% of your time on the problem and 95% on the solutions. This will keep you excited and not allow you to get bogged down in the everyday trials of life.

6. Challenges create opportunities of growth for us as people. This is a good thing. Life was not meant to always be easy, challenges are part of the deal. The growth you make during these periods has great meaning.

7. Most importantly, find time for yourself. Time for you! Yes, I know you are too selfless to find the time, but if you can find 5 minutes to even stop and be grateful for what you have and who you have in your life, you will be blessed. Just look at your children.

You will all be so pleased to know you all don’t have to read any of this for a while, but I hope my newsletters have helped you throughout your life journey this year.

As this is the final newsletter for 2011, I wish to take this final opportunity to thank you sincerely for your support this year and for the wonderful Christmas gifts I have received. It has been a long, but enjoyable year. I thank you for your understanding when we may have messed up, for the times things have gone wrong, when schedules have changed, when events have just not gone to plan. Like I have always told the students, we all learn from our mistakes and become better people from our errors. May you be blessed for your tremendous work as parents of your children and members of our school. May God shower you with many special blessings of peace this Christmas. Happiness to you all over the Christmas holidays. On a personal note, thank you for the difference you have all made to my life as the principal!
Uniform Shop News

School hats are now available from the Uniform Shop.

As always, should you have any questions please contact Uniform Shop Coordinator, Pauline Moran (year 3 & Pre-Primary) on 0412 712 128, or alternatively Simone Dearle (year 5 & 3) on 0409 507 994. Thank you.

Parish Cleaning Coordinator

We are looking for a Parish Cleaning Coordinator for 2012.

Jill Brazil has completed a wonderful job over the last two years and is now ready to hand over the reins to the next person. Jill has indicated she is happy to pass on her templates and explain the process undertaken over the last two years.

If you would like to support the school and parish and are interested in taking on the role in 2012, please contact Sheryl Milonas on 9271 7181 or email at admin@stcolsbays.wa.edu.au. Your support in taking on this role is greatly appreciated.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank Jill for her efforts and hard work over the last two years. We greatly appreciate her commitment to both the parish and the school.

School Banking

Congratulations to the following students who have each received certificates for their incredible efforts in making regular deposits into school banking.

Ashleigh Pedretti - Gold
Amber Georgiou and Phoebe Mitchell - Silver
Alyssa Moore - Bronze

Well done everyone - keep up the great work, and I look forward to seeing you and everyone in the new term for some more exciting and fun saving.

Thank you to all families for supporting school banking. Remember to bring your deposits on Tuesday from 8.15am - 8.45 am. Anyone wishing to open a new account so that you can get off to a great start in Term One please contact me on 0439827434.

I wish you all a very Happy and safe Christmas.

Marcia Mackenzie
School Banking Co-ordinator
Parish Cleaning Roster

THANK YOU!
Thank you so much to everyone who has volunteered their time. To those of you who are continuing on the roster this term, thank you for your on-going support. To the new volunteers, thank you for your very welcome help.
The parish hall cleaning takes about 1.5 hours or less if you have 2 people working together. The hall can be cleaned after school on Friday or on Saturday before 4pm. Please contact Jill Brazil on 0411 592 234 or jbrazil@iinet.net.au for further information.
The key to clean the parish hall is located at the school office and can be picked up on Friday afternoon. Once you have finished cleaning, please remember to lock the hall and return the key to the office on Monday morning.
If the date allocated does not suit, please call another team to arrange a date swap.
JILL BRAZIL

Canteen News

As we are approaching the end of the school year, would continuing families please ensure that your account is in credit. Accounts of departing families should be finalised by Monday, 12 December.

Thank you.
Any assistance in the canteen would be greatly appreciated.
SHERYL MILONAS

Pastoral Care

We would like to thank the school community for the ongoing support we’ve received through the weekly raffles.
This year has been a very busy one and without you, we would not have been able to help and support as many people as we did.

Thank you.
We are still missing four eski bags. Could those people who have received meals please check whether the bag the meals came in was brought back to school?
Pastoral Care Committee
Swim Club 2011 Term 4 News

The swimming club have been training each Monday and Wednesday afterschool during Term 4. The students have been working hard to improve their fitness and stroke technique after a long cold winter and the swimmers should be happy with the results achieved in that time.

There will be a sausage sizzle after training on Monday 12th December (see attachment) for swimmers and their families and the last training session will be held on Wednesday 14th December (last day of term).

On behalf of the swimmers and their parents, many thanks to the coaching team of Chenoa Anderson and Leah Marrapodi for their time and dedication to the task of organising and conducting the training sessions.

The Swimming Training will recommence in Term 1 on Monday 6th February, 2012. For any queries please email stcols.sportandrec@gmail.com

Cheers,
Jack Vanderklau

Canteen Notice

Please note that on the last day of school, next Wednesday, 14 December, there will be no pizzas available. Hot lunches will include pies, party pies and sausage rolls. Sandwiches will be available as usual.

Thank you for your understanding.

Name Bricks & Pavers – Final Orders

The first order of 109 Bricks & Pavers should arrive at the School in a couple of week's time and they will be put on display so every-one has a chance to see how fantastic they look. We are also in the process of finalising an "Eye-catching" design for the Wall/Paved area.

We intend to place another Order by December the 9th (at the latest!) for all those people who missed the first round but have expressed interest in being part of the "75th Anniversary Wall & Paved Area" project.

Sue Grant (Yr 1, Yr 4 Mum) & Penny Pettit (Yr 1 Mum) will be available in the School Library from 8.45am on Monday 21st November to answer any Queries/help fill out Order Forms/Collect completed Orders and conduct “Hand-drawn” Image sessions with the kids (see flyer sent home on Wednesday), for anyone who is requiring assistance.

Don’t miss out on this wonderful opportunity to.......................
Social Worker News

“Who’s keeping you busy in your family right now?” Everyone could identify a child who took up more of their energy and time than other children.

It seems we all have an ‘effort child’. These are the kids we need to devote more of our time, more of our energy and more of our focus than other children. These kids can vary, but usually one child in a family will take up more energy and effort over time than others.

‘Effort kids’ wear you out! But they also make you a better parent as they require you to reach a little deeper than easy kids. Anyone can raise an ‘easy kid’. You just need to create a warm, orderly environment for them generally to flourish. I know that’s a bit simplistic, but it’s true.

But ‘effort kids’ require more skills, more patience and more commitment from parents. ‘Effort kids’ come in different categories.

Children with a disability require greater effort and more specialised skill. Often the parenting skills used for specific special needs children transfer easily to other children. For instance, the simple, direct, clear, uncomplicated communication you need to develop for a child on the autism spectrum is also beneficial for all children in a family at different times.

You may recognise these ‘effort kids’:

‘Make me’ kids require more effort from parents. These are the children who like to think they are calling the shots. They respond best to the language of cooperation so they require parents to use language that doesn’t threaten their wish to be in control.

‘Help me’ kids require more effort too. These are the kids who become very reliant on parents to be their memories. Sometimes we parents love them helplessly so that we end up doing everything for them. These kids wear us out and will continue to do so if we allow them.

‘More please’ kids always want more of us. You read them a story for ten minutes and they’ll want five more minutes. Spend fifteen minutes on a book and they’ll want twenty minutes. These kids are wearying and will often set the tone for the rest of your parenting. Other kids within a family will often give way to these kids as well.

‘Sensitive kids’ require a lot of effort. These are thin-skinned kids that worry too much about things they can’t control. These kids have kind hearts, are empathetic yet they wear their heart on their sleeve and can easily be hurt by more thick skinned peers. They require more effort from parents for them to be optimistic and resilient.

‘Isolated kids’ take more effort too. Some kids struggle to make friends and need more parental input to help them develop friendship skills and attributes than others. Friendship difficulties can emerge for many reasons including due to a child’s temperament, lack of opportunities, or arrested development due to circumstances such as coming from a small family. Greater parent input can help these kids form friendships so you may find you need to put more effort into providing opportunities to form friendships outside of school, or simply teaching kids some relationship and friendship skills.

Of course, birth order will often throw up an effort child. Research has revealed that often it was second or middle children who tended to take more effort than children born in any other position. Most of this effort was aimed at helping middles behave well and feel accepted.

Most kids think that their position is the worst and each position requires it’s own special parent effort. For instance, youngest children often take more effort for them to develop independence and eldest kids take more parent effort for them to take more learning risks. Birth order effort is indeed fascinating!

Parenting is never a level playing field. Some kids require more time, attention and effort than others. That’s one of those unspoken laws of family life and parenting.

Extract from Happy Kids newsletter by Michael Grose
www.parentingideas.com.au

Jennifer Maughan
School Social Worker
St Columba’s Bayswater Wednesdays and alternate Thursdays
**Riverside MultiSports at Trinity College**

Riverside MultiSports are hosting a sports programme for students aged 6—14 at Trinity College from Wednesday, 11th January to Friday, 13th January. Each day will commence at 9:00am and conclude at 12:30pm with the focus being on a wide range of sports supervised by specialist coaches in a fun yet safe environment. To secure a place on this exciting programme or for more information, email riversidesports@live.com.au or call David on 0413342999.

**Girl Guides**

Girl Guides provides opportunities for fun, friendship, adventure, personal development and skill development to girls and young women. Girl Guides provide great role models for girls and pathways to community involvement.

Being a member of Girl Guides helps to build self-esteem and builds confidence. Girls gain experience in responsible behavior, learn how to plan and complete tasks and work with others on team projects.

The Bayswater Bumblebee Girl Guide Unit currently has around 40 girls, aged 6 to 14 years. We have a number of girls on our waiting list and would love to give these young women the opportunity to be part of Girl Guides, but we need more adult helpers.

Girl Guides provides training and mentors for adult volunteers. You can get involved to a level which feels right, and can enjoy all sorts of activities. You don't need to have a daughter in Guiding or any previous experience with Girl Guides. If you are interested in learning more about Girl Guides, or you know someone who is, please contact me on 0412 822 779. If you are short of time or are unsure that Guiding is for you, consider a ‘donation’ of six hours of your time as a temporary volunteer.

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**Learn to Swim**

Enrolments are now open for the January Holiday Program

**Monday 9th January to Friday 20th January**

Lessons are conducted at Chisholm Catholic College, Bedford and will be held in the afternoon.

Cost of $60 per week.

For available times or further information please contact:

**Josie Randall**
Ph: 9328 4599 or 0400 977 701
Email: josie@wa.swimming.org.au
Website: www.wa.swimming.org.au

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**School Holiday Programs at the International Centre for Excellence**

- Academic Boost – primary and high school
- Study Skills Program for High School
- Creative Courses – Writing/Art/Comprehension/Maths and Language/Puppetry
- Transition to Year One – also suitable for children going into Pre Primary
- EQ4KIDZ – Emotional Intelligence and Social Skills course

Call Danielle Manning on 9271 4200 to find out more.
Community News

School of Music UWA
Young Voices Choir

From February 2012 Junior Music School is offering enthusiastic young singers in Years 5 - 8 an exciting opportunity to join a new choir dedicated to high quality choral singing.

The Young Voices Choir is for children aged 9 to 14. The choir will be led by Celia Christmass - an outstanding choral director and music educator with extensive experience teaching and conducting young people at local and national levels. Rehearsals will be held weekly on Saturday from 1pm - 2pm in the beautiful surrounds of The University of Western Australia. Occasional vocal day "camps" will be held at UWA as part of this ambitious innovation for young voices.

Further Information
Email: junior-music@uwa.edu.au

City of Bayswater
YOUTH EVENTS CALENDAR

Carols by Candlelight
Saturday, 17 December 2011
Halliday Park, Coode Street, Bayswater
(Parking from Drake Street)
Children's Entertainment 5:00-7:00pm
Carols Starting: 7:00pm

Pack a picnic and invite your friends and family along to celebrate the festive season!
Programs and candles will be available for a gold coin donation.
Light refreshments will be available onsite.

Visit the SNOW this Christmas!
To help celebrate Christmas, The City of Bayswater is opening its doors to a life-sized snow dome!!
This is an opportunity not to be missed! Families are encouraged to bring down their cameras!

Opening times:
Monday 12 Dec—Friday 16 Dec: 10am-7:00pm
Saturday 17 December: 10:00am-4:00pm
Sunday 18 December: 10:00am-4:00pm
Monday 19 Dec—Thursday 22 Dec: 10am-7:00pm

All visitors are encouraged to donate a non-perishable food item or contribute a gold coin donation per person, towards the City’s Christmas Food Appeal.
The RISE
28 Eighth Ave, Maylands

YMCA Morley Sport and Recreation Centre
School Holiday Clinics Monday 9 Jan – Fri 20 Jan 2012
Clinics available are, Crafty Kids /Young Master Chef, Drama for Kids, Toddler/ Kindy Gym, Multisports / Acro / Gym Combo, Fun n Games (4-6yrs), Cheer/ Dance Combo. Very affordable of clinics cost between $10 and $20!
For more information and enrolment please call YMCA Morley’s Front Reception on 93753529 or visit our website at www.ymca.morley.org.au
Classifieds

Advertising space available!

$50.00 per term for a business card-sized ad.

Contact admin@stcolsbays.wa.edu.au with your pdf and to arrange payment to the P&F.

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Denture & Mouthguard Service

Suite 6 / 263 Walter Road, Morley WA 6062
Telephone: (08) 9375 2400

Bradley S. Mills
Dental Prosthetist

Harold Dodd
0411 869 800
hdodd@recyclers.com.au

www.recyclers.com.au

The Good Guys Belmont Pty Ltd
226 Alexander Perth
Balcatta WA 6021
Phone: 08 9450 8000 Fax: 08 9450 8001
Email: brooke@thegoodguys.com.au

The Good Guys Discount Warehouses

develop build invest

www.db9propertydevelopment.com.au

helping you create your wealth and lifestyle potential through property development

DB9

property development group PTY LTD

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