



# Cecil Hills News Public School



A quality education in a modern learning environment

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Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025

From the Principal

Since 2020 we have had a huge Christmas Tree which was donated to the school from the Vuckovic family. The tree went up today, which the children all seem to love. On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December we will be holding our annual mufti day to support children who are involved in Domestic Violence. Westcare is a charity that supports mainly women who have fled from domestic violence situations, generally with nothing more than the clothes they are wearing. Often, they have children with them. We are asking that children bring in a present that can be given to children in these situations and place it under the tree. You can label the present for the gender (if gender specific) and approximate age, for example 8-10-year-old girl. Children may alternatively wish to donate money on the day of the mufti which will be used to purchase gifts. You may also donate hampers, gift packs or vouchers. Children may bring gifts earlier than the 4<sup>th</sup> and place them under the tree. We will secure them each day so that they are not left out after hours. A note with more information will be sent home this week.

Today is International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, I attended the annual Cowpasture Every Step Counts march (formerly White Ribbon Event) with a group of stage 3 students. The work we do with our students around respect and respectful relationships includes eradicating violence against others, a difficult thing to achieve in the current climate of the world. Violence against women is a national crisis in Australia. One woman is killed every 9 days by a current or former partner. This year alone, over 80 women and children have been killed. Despite over 48,000 articles being written about violence against women, this problem persists and is almost 'normalised' within the media. The generations that have come before have not done a great job in this area. With the high rates of domestic violence, especially against women, my hope is that our current students are those who will change the narrative and culture.

Next Tuesday is High School Orientation Day for all year 6 students attending Government high schools in 2026. Most students from our year 6 are heading to Cecil Hills High School. If you are unsure of your child's orientation details or any other information, please contact their high school.

We are currently preparing for the 2026 school year. Schools are staffed with teachers and administration staff based on the number of students enrolled. So we can plan our staffing and classes we need to know of any families who are leaving the area in 2025. If you are leaving the area please send a note or an email to the school by the end of this week. Naturally students currently in year 6 do not need to inform the school. We also need to know if your child/children will not be returning on the **first day** of school next year. If you are returning to school late next year due to an extended holiday please email or write a note and send it to the school office so we can count your child in our numbers. All students in 2026 will return to school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

From 10 December 2025 (earlier for some), many social media platforms won't be allowed to let Australians under 16 create or keep an account.

The information on this link will help you understand why, and how you can help your under-16 through the change. <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions> The Office of the e-safety Commissioner have created a Social Media Age Restriction Video Series: a short, voice-led resource designed to help you understand what's changing, why it matters, and how to support your family through it. You can watch this with your child to start the conversation together.



This four-topic series covers:

- A delay, not a ban: What the changes mean for your child's access to social media
- Why delay social media accounts? Hear directly from a young person on the benefits of waiting
- How will the age restrictions be implemented? What to expect and how it will work
- Support, resources and tips to prepare: Practical advice to help your family adjust
- Whether you're watching at home or listening on the go, this flexible format makes it easy to stay informed and confident in your digital parenting journey. Watch the videos here: [https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions?utm\\_campaign=2511\\_parent\\_news\\_nov&utm\\_id=8cdec9ca6f6a229e4c232745c96de684&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=eSafety\\_edm#talking-with-under-16s-about-age-restrictions-%E2%80%93-videos](https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions?utm_campaign=2511_parent_news_nov&utm_id=8cdec9ca6f6a229e4c232745c96de684&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eSafety_edm#talking-with-under-16s-about-age-restrictions-%E2%80%93-videos)

Please use the following link to get more information: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions>

Applications for selective high school and opportunity class entry in 2027 will be open from 6 November 2025 to 20 February 2026. Information about applying can be found at [Selective high schools and opportunity classes](#).

#### Upcoming Dates for the diary:

**November:** 26th-Year 3 excursion.

**December:** 1st-K-2 Movie Day; 2nd-High School Orientation; 3rd-Christmas mufti for Westcare; 4th-Presentation Day assemblies; 5th-Sport & Cultural Groups assembly; 8th-10th-School sport and recreational camp; 11th-Band recital evening; 12th-Gold Party; 15th-Unit excursion; 16th-Dollars for scholars; 17th-Years 4 & 5 excursion, Year 6 farewell; 18th-Year 6 excursion; 19th-Last day of school and talent quest.

Please note **the last day for students is Friday 19th December**.



April Cutajar of 6M was the recipient of the 2025 Liverpool Young Achievers Award that recognised a student that has excelled in the area of citizenship.

Lilly Magro from 4F attended the Cowpasture Network public speaking competition, where she was the runner-up and received the Highly Commended award.

