Principals Message

I’m not quite sure where the time has gone, but we seem to have arrived at the final week of term very quickly. From my perspective, it has been another good term for our school and while ever all of our students are healthy, happy and working hard we can consider ourselves to be very lucky indeed. I’d like to thank our exceptional staff for their ongoing hard work this term. They are a wonderful group of people, who are very dedicated to our school and students and I’m very fortunate to work with each of them.

On Saturday, our P&C did another fantastic job of capitalising on the State Election to run a BBQ and cake stall for those people that voted here. On a weekend that was already busy with many junior sports activities kicking off, I very much appreciate those that gave up their time to serve our school through the baking of cakes, slices, etc. or who served at school on the day. Our students are the ones that benefit from your hard work. Thanks to Kevin Sinclair for his organisation and all those that volunteered to serve or bake. Great effort.

Don’t forget the Homework Forum tomorrow evening (details further on). We’d love to see as many people join us as possible. The more ideas and input we gather from parents, the better the school’s approach to homework will be. Hope to see you there.

Finally, Easter is one of those special times of the year for families. Whether you are camping, travelling or just staying at home, I hope that this weekend and the two weeks to follow are relaxing and enjoyable for those in your family. I myself look forward to attending Easter services with my family and will once again endeavour not to eat too much chocolate (and most likely fail).

Happy Easter everyone!

David Holland

This week’s value: Respect

Key Message: Its can be personally rewarding to sometimes put others first
School Resumes
The school holidays commence this Friday. Term 2 begins with a staff development day the first Monday back. **This means that the students return on Tuesday 21st April.** For the staff development day, our staff will be joining with our local community of schools at Cardiff High to hear a presentation by well-known speaker Michael McQueen. Michael has expertise in understanding generational differences and how understanding these differences for the current generation can help schools and employers better cater for their individual needs.

Uniform update
Hopefully you are aware that the new Sports House shirts are now in stock and can be ordered through the office or by visiting the uniform shop. The School Council is currently in the process of finalising the School’s uniform guidelines to accommodate the recent change of uniform. Although the final draft has not been released yet, it may be helpful for you to know the following points from that draft, particularly with Winter approaching:

- A plain, **navy** - skivvy, spencer or long sleeve shirt may be worn underneath the school polo shirt for additional warmth
- For girls - navy stockings underneath skorts or shorts are permissible
- Girls are **not permitted** to wear navy leggings in place of pants (bootleg pants are OK)
- Girls hair accessories must be navy in colour

It is hoped that the finalised uniform guidelines can be released early next term to help guide families with understanding our updated uniform requirements. Please remember that all families have until the end of Term 1 2016 to have transitioned over to the new summer and winter uniforms. With the new sports house shirts having only just arrived, families will have an additional year (until Term 1, 2017) to have transitioned over to those.

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**Southy Stars – Week 9**

🌟 Ella Robb -6J  🌟 Cody Matheson –K/1Red  🌟 Taylah Callcott -3S

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Canteen

 Maduro - PRE ORDER ONLY

The canteen is offering some new and health specials from now till the end of Term 1.

😊 Fruit Pizza...70c  😊 Fruit Pizza with yoghurt dip...$1
😊 Fruit Rocket...70c  😊 Fruit Rocket with yoghurt dip...$1

➔ Wednesday is RED DAY

Tomorrow is Hot Cross Bun Day. The canteen will also be offering some other RED DAY treats so send in some money for your children to enjoy a treat. Some things on offer are: licorice, Wonka raspberry twists, mini pluto pups ($1.50) and hot dogs ($2.50).

Some Dates for your calendar - Term 2

- 23rd April – Zone Cross Country
- 28-30th April – Choralfest
- 6th May – Mother’s Day Stall
- 7th May – Mum’s morning tea (& class visits)
- 12-14th May – NAPLAN Years 3 & 5
- 20th May – Stage 3 excursion
- 21st May – School disco
- 28th May – School photos
- 2nd June – Stage 1 excursion
- 11th June – Stage 2 excursion
- 17th June – School athletics carnival
- 25th June – NAIDOC assembly

Ethan S Unplugged

Class: 3/4BG
What is your favourite food? Lasagne
What is your best subject at school? Maths
Favourite TV show Tom and Jerry
Hobbies: Cricket and Soccer
Siblings: 2 older sisters - Emily & Alex
Things that bug me.. Nothing
School Anzac Service
Nationally, the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli landings in World War I is becoming an important event for all Australians to commemorate. At Cardiff South PS we will be doing this in a number of ways with the intent of helping our students understand its significance. The first step towards this is for us to host a special School Anzac Service on Thursday 23rd April (first week of next term). Although the service is planned with the students in mind, parents and friends of our school are welcome to attend. The service will commence at 12pm and will run for approximately 45 minutes. Students are asked to bring with them a flower on the day as they will be making wreaths for the service. At the conclusion of the assembly, each student will receive a commemorative coin as a memento of this occasion.

Zone Cross Country Team
Congratulations to all students who participated in our school cross country last Thursday. The weather was kind to us and it was great to have some parents in attendance to cheer the students on. The students who finished either 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in their age division now have the opportunity to go on and represent Cardiff South at the Zone Cross Country on Thursday April 23rd at Federal Park Wallsend. Good luck to the following team: 8/9 Yr girls - Lisa-Lee B; Ebony H; Taylor R; Summah M. 8/9 Yr boys - Brodie S; Lachlan R; Jack C; Nate L. 10 Yr girls- Chloe W; Gisele A; Chloe S; Jacqueline HT. 10 Yr boys- Liam S; Ben C; Justin B; Liam N. 11 Yr girls- Milli W; Abigail F; Grace L; Vashity S. 11 Yr boys- Tyson R; Joseph C; Cory V; James T. 12 Yr girls- Chelsea G; Alexandra B; Annalise A; Emma-Kiara C. 12 Yr boys- Jasper S; Leo d l L; Dylan R; Jayden P.

Thank you for your help!

A big thank you to all of those who helped with the Election Day BBQ on Saturday. We netted a grand total of $581.40 from selling cakes, sausage sandwiches and egg and bacon rolls - a great start to our fund raising activities for the year.

To all of you who took the time to bake cakes - you did the Cardiff South Public School Amateur Baking Society proud 😊. A special thank you to Cassandra, Alison, Brodie and Liam, Naomi, Kale and Erin, Christie, Naomi and the ever dependable Nash clan - for fronting up and helping on the BBQ.

It’s always good catching up with the “usual suspects” at these fundraising activities but it would have also been nice to see some new faces. Please consider supporting future fun raising activities if you are able and, remember, we’re always happy to see new faces at the P&C meetings 😊.

Your P&C

Mortgage Choice

Any school family that establishes a mortgage from Mortgage Choice CARDIFF, our school receives a donation of $250!!

Support your local broker that supports your school

Your local Cardiff Mortgage Choice is the ONLY office supporting your school.

Richard Windeyer

Cardiff 1800 01 LOAN
2/30 Harrison Street CARDIFF 2285

Believe and Achieve
Vacation Care
This Autumn holidays, Hillsborough OOSH and Vacation Care and Cardiff OOSH and Vacation Care are both offering some exciting programs to keep kids entertained. Please see ‘Vacation Care’ in the Parent Info tab on our school app for more details.

The 100 Year centenary of the ANZACs is an important anniversary which gives us the opportunity to reinforce with our students, the sacrifices that were made through war and which give us our freedom today. In preparation to commemorate this, Cardiff South PS is offering some unique opportunities for our students.

Book Donations
All families have the opportunity to donate a book to our school library to commemorate 100 Years of ANZAC. Each book donated will have a commemorative book label attached with your family name and will be available for students’ to borrow for years to come. If you would like to participate, please complete the form and return by this Thursday. Additional notes are available at the front office.

Year 5 Writing Competition
The Literacy Committee at CSPS has begun an annual ANZAC day writing competition for year 5 students. Each year a new topic around ANZAC day will be decided. This year’s topic is The Gallipoli Landing. The winning written piece will be read as part of our school ANZAC day service to held on 23rd April 2015. The writer can choose whether they read their piece or allow another person to read it on their behalf. The winner will receive a book prize and have their name on a perpetual trophy that will be displayed in the school.

ANZAC Day Dawn Service - 25th April
Cardiff RSL invites you to join them for their annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service.
• March commences 5am at the corner of Main Rd and Macquarie Rd
• Ceremony commences at 5:15am at the Cenotaph (in front of the RSL)
• Breakfast will be available post ceremony - $5; please pre-purchase at the club reception

Canteen  Thank you for your support 😊

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CROSS COUNTRY – 26TH MARCH
Lost in concentration

It's more challenging than ever to be present with our kids, and so easy to get lost in concentration on a device. Here are 5 tips to really impact and make the most of every opportunity you have with your kids.

I can't help but admire my young colleague Sonia, mother of a 4-year-old boy and a seven-year-old girl. She is an avid user of social media and other electronic devices, but she is disciplined enough to set them aside when she is with her kids. Sonia chooses to focus her attention on her children, so she limits her use of communication devices to the times when she is alone – which she admits is less often than she’d like.

Electronic devices such as tablets and mobile phones are ever present. They are heaps of fun, the source of so much knowledge and a great way to stay in touch with others. The flip side is that their hypnotic effect is powerful so that frequently all our concentration is directed at them rather than our kids. When this happens you'll more than likely miss some wonderful opportunities to really impact your child.

1. **Build their language**
   Recently, I saw a mother walking side by side with a young toddler playing a simple language game. She would make a sound with her mouth and her young son would mimic her. She changed or added to the sounds and her son tried to replicate the sounds. This is language building at its most natural and finest, and wouldn’t have happened if this mother was on the mobile phone rather than being present with her child. Whether you are with a toddler, primary aged child or a teen the language building opportunities are endless. You just have to focus on the one you are with and let things happen naturally.

2. **Teach your children about their world**
   Most children are naturally curious and will ask lots of questions. "Why do dogs bark?" “Why is the sun round?” “Where do babies come from?” Yes, some are simple, some are hard to answer and some you are just not ready for. But it’s through these simple interactions that you become your child’s first and most important teacher. My hunch is that most kids will stop asking these questions of you if your attention is focused elsewhere, such as on a mobile phone or other electronic device.

3. **Impact their thinking**
   Influential British educator Charles Des Forges says, "If you want to influence your child’s thinking then you need to talk to him. If parents want more influence then they need to talk more to their children." According to Des Forges it's through the conversations that parents have with their children that they impact the way they think, as well as influence their values. Nothing kills personal conversation with a child or young person like a mobile device.

There are five BIG opportunities available to you as a parent if you, like Sonia, choose to be in the moment when you have children.


parentingideas.com.au
... Lost in concentration ...

1 Build relationships
Relationships are built through common interest, good intent and respectful behaviour. I can think of no better reason for being in the moment with your child than the opportunity it presents to build some common interest and rapport. Time spent giving attention to your child is like putting money in the bank for the future. You never know when you are going to withdraw some of the deposits that you’ve made, so it’s reassuring to know that you’ve made plenty of deposits of goodwill to draw on, particularly in the tricky teenage years.

2 Build memories for you
As a parent of adult children I now treasure the memories of times I was fortunate to have spent with them as young children. It’s strange how these memories resurface at the most unexpected time. Recently, I was in a supermarket and I remembered the time when I enthusiastically asked my youngest, who was three at the time, to get the box of cereal with the big red K. Off she went feeling all important and returned with a triumphant smile armed with a box of dog food. “Thanks darling. Nearly!” was my reply desperate not to quell the enthusiasm to help that only a three year old can have.

Yes, there are million memories such as this available to parents who are willing to focus attention on the children rather than be distracted by the lure of communication devices.

As a parent you have competing demands on your time, and the allure of communication technology can be overwhelming. However, as Sonia is so aware, the time for parents to really impact on kids is limited so you want to make the most of every opportunity you have with them.

The key to positively influencing your kids, building strong relationships and building enough fond memories to last a lifetime is to make sure that your mind is where your body is and be fully present when you are with your kids.

Michael Grose