Principals Message

What an enjoyable morning last Friday was for our students, teachers and especially our mothers and grandmothers. We were delighted that so many of you were able to join us for our Mum’s Morning Tea. Special thanks to those of you who went to the trouble of rearranging work schedules; getting in babysitters and/or taking the day off work to join us. We appreciate the effort that you went to and hope that it was very much worthwhile. We will continue to look at ways of making it more accessible and even more enjoyable for you next year – hopefully it becomes a tradition in the same vein as the Father’s Day Breakfast. As you know, we used the morning tea as a fundraiser for the Cancer Council’s ‘Biggest Morning Tea’ and through the generous donations that were received, we raised $392.45.

Also on Friday, the Hunter Sports Unit ran the regional Cross Country Carnival at Broadmeadow. You would know from last week’s newsletter that there were five of our talented girls who qualified for this event. In true Cardiff South style, they all put in a spirited performance and represented our school with great pride. I am pleased to share with you that for the first time in quite a while, one of these girls has qualified for the state cross country carnival. Chloe Walandouw finished 4th in the regional finals and now has the opportunity to represent her family and our school at the state carnival. Congratulations Chloe on a remarkable personal achievement! We wish you all the very best for your next challenge at the State carnival.

Have a great week.
David Holland
Principal

NAPLAN 2015

NAPLAN assessments got underway today for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. They completed the Language Conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and Writing assessments this morning and will undertake the Reading assessment tomorrow and Numeracy on Thursday. If for some reason your child is unwell on any of the testing days, please keep them at home. They will have the opportunity to make up any missed tests due to absence on Friday.
Mother’s Day Stall

There were many contributing factors to the huge success of the Mother’s Day Stall last Thursday; thank you to everyone who contributed by way of generous donations, setting up / packing down, serving our kids on the day and counting the money. A whopping $1800 was raised on the day. The P&C are pleased to be able to top up their account after the last big purchase of Wi-fi throughout the school. It was particularly good to see some dads supporting this fundraiser.

A raffle is proving popular with the kids at the stall. This year’s winners were:

1st Jack Wallace, 1/2Z – Entertainment Book
2nd Madison Dykes, 2L – PartyLite gift pack
3rd Keanu Hall, 3/4BG – Body Wash pack

Congratulations to these students; we hope your mums enjoyed their gifts.

Payment Deadlines

You may recall last term that we introduced more rigid payment deadlines in order to ensure effective organisation of our extra-curricular activities. To assist families in being aware of upcoming payment deadlines, we will be putting reminders in our newsletter and also on the Skoolbag app as deadline approach. The first of the payment deadlines for Term 2 is 3:30pm this Friday. Due on Friday are payments for next week’s Stage 3 Newcastle excursion and payments for all grades to participate in RAW Art. If you haven’t yet paid for these activities, please do so by 3:30pm this Friday. Following that school Disco payments will be due next Tuesday.

School Photos

Our school photo day has been scheduled for Thursday the 28th May. Today we have sent home with the students - envelopes which contain more information about the packs that are available to order and the ordering forms themselves. Regardless of whether you choose to purchase a photo pack or not, envelopes MUST be returned on photo day. For those interested in purchasing family photos, special envelopes for ordering these are available at the office. We’d ask that on the photo day all students wear our new winter uniform consisting of navy pants, the school polo shirt, white socks and black shoes. Because not all families have changed over to the school jackets yet we will take the photos without the student’s jackets on. The students in preschool will have their photos taken over two days depending on their group on Tues 26th May and Friday 29th May.

Southy Stars – Week 3

🌟 Tegan McCabe-3/4BG  🌟 Ebonie Humphries-1D  🌟 Riley Collins-3/4BG
Preschool Pyjama Day

Last week at Preschool we held a pyjama day in recognition of World Asthma Day to raise funds for the Asthma Foundation. This annual event, which was adopted by the Asthma Foundation, aims to raise awareness and money for this chronic condition that affects over 2 million Australians, including many children that attend our preschool. The children all came dressed in their pyjamas, and we were involved in lots of fun experiences on the day such as face painting, making popcorn, painting our nails and having some toast while we watched a movie as a special treat! Some of the children assisted with the face painting process, while others came up with the idea of making 'smoothies' using small paper cups, straws and pipe cleaners for when we watched the movie. We also discussed with the children the meaning of this day and what asthma is. Some of the children made connections with how it was hard for them to breathe when they had a 'blocked nose'. From this event we raised $53.50 to donate to the Asthma Foundation, which will go towards vital asthma research and asthma support programs.
PSSA Competition
For the students selected in the school netball and soccer teams, the Crossroads PSSA competition kicks off next Friday (22/5) with a home game at Ulinga Park against Barnsley Public School. Junior games commence at approximately 1:00pm and Senior games commence at 1:40pm. Families are always welcome to come along and cheer our teams on.

Senior Boys Rugby League Knockout
Cardiff South PS Senior Boys Rugby League team played a knockout competition on Wednesday 6th May at Bill Bower field, Glendale.
Firstly, we versed Elermore Vale PS. The score was 32-6 our way. It was a hard game but we all had fun running and tackling. Some of our team had injuries but survived to play some more football against Edgeworth PS.
In our second game, Edgeworth PS was much more experienced and knew the game well. They were a very hard team because of the way they ran the ball and tackled. Three of our players were sent off with injuries. Now knowing we had lost some players, we continued to play hard but unfortunately we lost 24-0. Pleasingly the score was nil all for most of the first half due to our committed defence.
We won and lost but the best thing is that we all had fun. Some kids on the way back to school were saying that we all had a go. The football team would like to thank Mr Carlin for taking his time to coach us and get us ready for the knockout.


Thank you to the wonderful parents who were able to transport students to and from this event; a special thanks to Mrs Marsh who did a double shuttle both ways on the day- a huge effort, thank you! Mr Carlin

New FM’s Apple for the Teacher Competition
We feel very honoured to have had 8 of our staff nominated for The New FM’s Apple for the Teacher competition. Voting is now open, so jump on the website newfm.com.au to vote for your favourite teacher. More information about the competition can be found on their website. Voting closes Friday 22nd May.

Mia Hanlon Unplugged

Class:
K/1 Red

What makes you laugh?
When mummy tickles me

Favourite game or toy?
My unicorn - Twinkle Toes

Favourite movie?
Frozen

What do you do for fun?
Play in my backyard

Siblings:
1 younger brother, Aiden

Best memory:
Taronga Zoo with my family
Year 5 Opportunity Class Placements – 2016

Parents interested in seeking an opportunity class placement for their child in Year 5 2016 are required to submit an online application now by the 15th May 2015. Generally, students are currently in Year 4 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2016. All applications must be made online now by going to www.schools.nsw.edu.au/opclass. Information packages are also available from the school office. If you would like further advice about the opportunity class placement process, please make an appointment to speak with Mr Holland. Please note: these opportunity classes are established externally in other school settings.

2016 Enrolments

Parents, please be advised that we are now taking enrolment applications for both Kindergarten and Preschool for the 2016 school year. Please speak to our friendly office staff for more information about the application process or see the Term 2 Week 2 newsletter for a detailed summary of the enrolment process.

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Happy Birthday

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The P&C are pleased to introduce ‘Our Online Canteen’. Our online canteen is a service that allows parents to place their children’s lunch and recess orders on-line using either the Internet or your mobile phone. The company we are working with is called Our Online Canteen. This allows parents, students and staff to place orders from home, work or on your smart phone at any time and up to 2 weeks in advance. You can also pay online using Credit Card, PayPal or Direct Deposit. In order to use this service you need to visit the website below and register - it only takes a few minutes. The use of online ordering will commence on Monday the 18th of May. Once the trial commences, online orders will close each day at 9.10am on the day of your order.

You will still be able to order over the counter between 8.30-9.00am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Over the counter sales at recess and lunch are also still available.

How do you get started


Sign up by filling in a registration form

Enter your contact details, username and password

Receive a confirmation email

Log in to the secure website

Select your school and enter your children’s names

Add credit to your account and order meals for your children

Once you’ve registered, ordering is easy

1 – Select child and order date
2 – Select menu items to order
3 – Confirm the order

Registration is free and credit can be placed onto your account using Credit Card, Direct Deposit or PayPal. Orders can be placed two weeks in advance. *Please be aware whilst credit card deposits will appear almost instantly in the Online Canteen account, direct deposits take two working days to appear. Credit card payments attract a small fee while direct deposits are FREE.*

If you are on Facebook and 'like' Our Online Canteen they have vouchers and credit giveaways each week if you post your order number on their page.

For more information or help in setting up your account contact ‘Our Online canteen’ via email info@ouronlinecanteen.com.au, phone 1300 484 888 or you can contact our P&C Representative Jacalyn on 0405 182 461.

For those parents that would like some face to face assistance - Jacalyn will be available on Wednesday the 13th of May in the Computer Room from 3.00-3.30pm to assist you with registering and can talk you through the ordering process. For general canteen queries email: [CSPSCanteen@gmail.com](mailto:CSPSCanteen@gmail.com)

We hope that once you’ve got the hang of it that you find this service makes ordering from our canteen more convenient and hassle free.

Thank you again to our fantastic canteen volunteers – without you we would not have a canteen. If you would like to join our wonderful team, please see Jen (Canteen Supervisor) at the Canteen or contact the office on 4954 7296.
Mother’s Day Morning Tea
Helping students get ready for the NAPLAN tests

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

During the second week of May Australian children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels to assist education policy and decision-making.

The program first implemented in 2008 has drawn some criticism from a number of different quarters, particularly in regard to the use of the information gained through the NAPLAN tests. You’ve probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media over the last few weeks.

One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children and young people take their cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. American psychologist Martin Seligman discovered more than a decade ago, through his research into children’s thinking styles, how closely a child’s explanatory style mimics that of the parent they spend most time around. Optimistic parents beget optimistic kids, just as anxious parents can beget anxious kids. The impact of a parent’s explanatory style seems to be magnified somehow in small families where there are fewer voices to be heard.

As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes them in his stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1. **Take your cues from your child:**
   If your child doesn’t worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn’t exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. **Focus on doing their best and trying hard:**
   Choose your words carefully when you speak with your kids. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3. **Listen to any concerns they have:**
   If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. “Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.” Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognising how kids feel.

4. **Give them some relaxation ideas:**
   Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5. **Help them retain their perspective:**
   One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what’s the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will still rise tomorrow, regardless of how well they do. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practise.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.