Principals Message

This week we mark Education Week. Education Week is about celebrating the achievements and success of students in Public Education. At Cardiff South, we hope to do just that by opening our gates on Thursday for an Open Day. The focus of Open Day will be Maths, with parents and family invited to join us in classrooms at 12:30pm to participate in some maths activities. This will be followed by a picnic lunch in the playground (please bring a chair or rug) to enjoy lunch with your child/ren. Year 6 will be selling sausage sandwiches and drinks to both students and parents as part of their fundraising efforts. We will conclude the day with two parent workshops in the library designed to increase your understanding of how we teach Maths at school. We hope it will be an enjoyable day for all concerned.

Last week the school received information from the newly formed Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner about a new website www.esafety.gov.au that has been set-up to allow children under the age of 18 to report incidents of cyberbullying. It is, in my opinion, by far one of the best initiatives introduced by the Federal Government for some time. This website not only allows children to report incidents of cyberbullying, but it provides parents with extremely helpful and up to date information about each of the social media websites and apps used by students. If as a parent you are like me and find keeping up with what ‘Kik’, ‘Snapchat’, ‘Club Penguin’ and ‘Miiverse’ are and what they are used for - a challenge, the website contains up to date information on all of them. You can learn: who can access them; how to protect your child’s information on them; how to report cyberbullying experienced on that app or website; whether there are ways that children could be duped into spending money and links for getting more information. I cannot recommend enough that all parents whose children have access to social media, be it on a tablet or home computer, should visit this site. To make that easier I’ve added a link (eSafety) under the parent info section of the Skoolbag app.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Open day on Thursday.
David Holland

Student Banking

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there will be no student banking tomorrow. Please hold your deposits for next week.
Cardiff South PS are participating in the Woolies Earn and Learn promotion. Completed cards can be left in the box at the office or in the box outside Cardiff Woolies. Keep them coming, the more we collect, the more resources our students will receive. Maybe you could even get Nan and Pop collecting for us too!"

**Math-a-thon**

By now all students should have taken home a copy of their Math-a-thon questions and sponsorship card. Please see your child’s teacher if you need another copy. The school will be a buzz this week as classes are busily working away revising and learning new Maths concepts in class. Family members are invited to join their children in classrooms to participate in Maths activities on Thursday from 12.30pm and parent information sessions will be held from 2pm in the library.

Students are busily collecting sponsorship for their participation in our Math-a-thon. Money will be due back to school from Week 5, 10th August 2015. For every $5 students raise they will receive 1 ticket in the raffle to win an Apple i-Pad mini!! How many chances will you have to win?

Good luck in the Math-a-thon this week and we hope that all parents and carers enjoy learning alongside and from their children on Thursday! We look forward to seeing you!

**You’re Invited!**

This Thursday parents, carers and family members are invited to join their children in their classrooms from 12.30pm to participate in Maths activities. Come along and learn alongside your child and find out how Maths is taught at school and what type of skills your children are learning!

A bell will ring at 1pm asking visitors to leave classrooms so we can pack up ready for lunch. At 1.10pm students will join you for a picnic lunch in the 3-6 playground (where the students meet in the morning). Yr 6 are running a delicious BBQ if you would like to purchase a sausage sandwich and drink.

At 2pm there will be 2 Maths workshops being held in the library. A K-2 session will be held from 2.00-2.30 pm and there will be a 3-6 session from 2.30-3.00pm. We would love you to join us at these sessions where we will give you an overview of how we teach addition and subtraction skills. We will unlock the mystery and leave you with some ideas for how to help your children at home.

We look forward to seeing you all on the day!
Preschool Gate
Parents please be advised that the external access gate to the preschool will now be locked during the school day. It will be locked in the morning with all the other gates at approximately 9:10am and reopened at around 2:50pm. This is to ensure that our site remains as safe as possible for our students and limits the access that a member of the public could have to the school grounds during the day. As always, if you are visiting the school during the day, our procedures are, that you present first at the admin office, sign the visitor’s book and take with you a visitor lanyard before entering the playground. Whilst this may seem a little inconvenient it is the best way for us to be aware of who is on our site at any given time and helps us have confidence that those who are here are known to us and are safe. Your cooperation with this is appreciated.

Regional Public Speaking Finals
Next week, the regional public speaking finals will take place at various locations across the Hunter. We wish our representatives the very best of luck:

S1 – Madison Dykes & Juliette Roberts
S2 – Liam Nash & Chloe Wallandouw
S3 – Eddie McLeish and Cory Vizintin

Beanie for Brain Cancer
Last week the students (and teachers) enjoyed the opportunity of wearing their favourite Beanies to school. If you missed it on the Skoolbag app, we are pleased to report that as a school we raised $375 for brain cancer research through the Mark Hughes Foundation. Having learnt recently that one of our wonderful mum’s was diagnosed with brain cancer, our commitment to this fundraiser became even more important and valuable. Thank you everyone for your support – what a great effort!

Shim Jang Taekwondo
You may already be aware, but a company called Shim Jang Taekwondo has started hiring our school hall on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 5:30 – 6:30pm to run Taekwondo lessons. For those interested, keep in mind that it is OK to come along the first time and try it out as the first lesson is free.

ICAS Results - Science
Congratulations to the following students who participated in the ICAS test for Science.

Beth-Ellen.C 4G Credit
Justin. B 5E Participation

Save the Dates
For those of you who like to plan ahead, here are some dates to add to your calendar (all of these are on the Skoolbag app calendar):

- Book Week Parade – Wednesday 19th Aug
- Father’s Day Breakfast – Friday 4th Sept
- Year 6 Fun Day – Thursday 17th Sept
- Whole School Performance Night – Thursday evening 3rd Dec (more details to come)

Presentation Day Assembly – Tuesday 8th Dec
Year 6 Farewell – Monday 14th Dec
Stage 3 Camp
This week, students in Stage 3 will take home a ‘Stage 3 Camp Organisation Pack’. Inside this pack is some important information for both parents/carers and students. We suggest that you sit down with your child and go through the pack and read all the information together. Included is a medical form which must be returned by next Tuesday, 4th August.
There are still a number of students with an outstanding balance for the camp; the final payment date is Friday 14th August, so please continue making your payments at the school office.

Cardiff High School MADD Concert
On Wednesday 5th August, 2015 Year 6 students will be walking to Cardiff High with Mr Carlin to experience the annual MADD concert. The MADD concert consists of performances from an array of talent in Music, Art Dancing and Drama for Year 6 students. Students should come prepared for unsettled weather (i.e. umbrella). The concert is also on Tuesday night, 4th August for parents to attend. Students must return their permission notes by Friday 31st July.

Cardiff High Year 7 Classes 2016
Planning is underway for Year 7 classes at Cardiff High next year. This planning is designed to maximise student opportunities and outcomes.
The Year 6 teachers will be liaising with the Cardiff High teachers to organise these classes. In addition to this, the GATS (Gifted and Talented Students) program at Cardiff High will be conducting a series of assessments in English, Maths and Science on the 14th August 2015. Along with Year 6 assessment results, these assessments will attempt to identify ‘academic all-rounders’.
A note detailing this process will be forthcoming. Please notify either Mr Jardine or Mr Carlin if you have any questions relating to this matter.

‘Photo to Phone’ Product from A-One Fotomakers Hunter.
Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control, the ‘Photo to Phone’ product which you may have ordered with your school photos this year cannot be supplied at this stage. We are communicating with our provider about this issue and at this stage we do not know when or if the situation is going to be rectified. The company we deal with has had a critical failure with their software and are having to rewrite their whole program.
If you purchased a ‘Photo to Phone’ please feel free to email cas@aonefotomakers.com.au so we can email you a digital copy of your photo. When and if this situation is fixed, we will also send you your photos to your phones. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused you. Please contact us on 49540499 if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Annie S Unplugged
Class: 5E
Most memorable holiday destination: Yamba
What is your favourite food?: Lollies & Hot Chips
How many siblings do you have?: An older brother and sister
Do you have a hobby?: I love swimming at the beach
What do you love about school?: Friendships
Maths Quiz Winner
The winner of the Stage 2 Maths Quiz is Indiana Waugh in 4G. Congratulations Indi, you will receive a free lunch from the canteen. Thank you to all who entered the quiz, well done!

Q. At our recent school disco, a class of 36 students had $\frac{3}{4}$ attend on the night. How many students did not go to the school disco?
A. 9 students did not attend the disco.

New Job Opportunity Available
Cardiff South Public School P&C Committee is looking for a person to take up the new position of Canteen Manager, Second in Charge.
The position is to fill in for when the Canteen Manager is unable to come to work, whether it be for medical or personal reasons.
The position is paid as a casual, with Superannuation entitlements. You will be employed under the Fast Food Industry Award 2010 (MA0000003) as a Level 2. The person who takes on this position; maybe called up on short notice to start the day; at times, will need to work the canteen on their own; it would be of a significant advantage to have worked in this type of industry before, either at a School Canteen level or for a fast food outlet/café, doing food preparation.
Please bring in your letter of application to the office before Friday 31st July. Applications will be called to arrange for an interview at a later date. The successful applicant will be required to be ready to start in August 2015. All enquiries to Cassandra Vizintin (P&C President) 0409 631316.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canteen Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 29</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Firman</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Lambert</td>
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<td>P. Thompson</td>
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Blackert Gymnastics Academy Has Moved!
Blackert Gymnastics Academy (BGA) is a successful and established gymnastics club that is fully affiliated with Gymnastics Australia. This year we have moved to a brand new, fully equipped, state of the art gymnastics centre and are offering a new and exciting range of programs. All programs are supervised by fully qualified gymnastics coaches and delivered in a fun, friendly and professional manner.

- Kindergarten: 18 months - 5 years
- Recreational Gymnastics: 4 years+
- Regional Levels Gymnastics: 7 years+
- Tricks & Tumbles: 7 years+
- FitKids: 5 years+
- Competitive Gymnastics: 5 years+ by assessment only

It’s Party Time!!!
Looking for a fun, easy, energetic and exciting place for your child’s birthday party? Then why not try one of our gymnastics parties! It’s the simple, stress free place for your child’s next birthday party.

School Holiday Fun!
We also have fun holiday programs to keep the children busy and active during every school holidays.
So why not come and give one of our programs or parties a try.

Where: 21 Templar Place Bennett’s Green
Phone: 4948 0555
Email: blackertgymnastics@hotmail.com
Facebook: Like us on Facebook Blackert Gymnastics Academy
Website: www.blackert.gymnastics.org.au

© 2015 Blackert Gymnastics Academy
9 Lake Ave
Cardiff South 2285
Tel: 4954 7296
Email: cardiffsths-school@det.nsw.edu.au

Believe and Achieve

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

Richard Windleiner
Support your local broker that supports your school

Our Online Canteen
An Online Ordering System

Lunch on Us
Week 1 winner was....
  Mrs Nash
Week 2 winner was....
  Hayley Kierath

Congratulations!

Newcastle Karate
www.newcastlekarate.com.au
Erga and Encourage
 Believe and Achieve

Cardiff 1800 01 LOAN
2/30 Harrison Street CARDIFF 2285

Cardiff, 1800 01 LOAN
2/30 Harrison Street CARDIFF 2285

9 Lake Ave
Cardiff South 2285
Tel: 4954 7296
Email: cardiffsths-school@det.nsw.edu.au

Believe and Achieve
Athletics Carnival 2015
Negeulbah Park

Believe and Achieve
Raising a critical generation

In a digitally literate world of ‘likes’ and social criticism Lakshmi Singh looks at how parents can foster critical spirit in a constructive, healthy and balanced way.

American keynote speaker, author and educator Tim Elmore recently penned an article observing a trend amongst kids dishing out careless criticism of processes, ideas and institutions.

From criticising classes to sports programs, the food offered on campus, administration or accommodation in some colleges and universities, students were increasingly displaying what Elmore calls, a ‘critical spirit’.

Time magazine also ran a feature discussing the narcissistic tendencies amongst Millenials, contributing to a feeling of entitlement amongst youngsters.

So, is there a generational change brewing, where more kids go about criticising anything and everything, becoming self-absorbed in the process?

Experts say that a critical spirit has and always will exist in all of us, it is just that the nature of today’s society and the easy accessibility of forums through which criticism can be provided that has given it more opportunity to be heard.

While experts say that cultivating a spirit of thinking critically about problems and situations is important, it is also necessary to foster a healthy decision-making process.

The age of entitlement

Parents have always wanted the best for kids, but taking the “you deserve the best, this/he/she is not good enough” mentality a bit too far can also be detrimental, says parenting and education expert Ronit Baras.

“The rules of education are very simple, judgmental parents will raise judgmental kids. Why? Because judgment is a coping mechanism to fight inadequacy. Judgmental people have weaknesses [and] judgment is their way of hiding. ‘If I find faults in others, I will be able to hide mine.’ If parents model this mentality, kids will adopt it.”

Similarly projecting a “my child is special and they need to know that” vision by over-supplying them with activities, commodities and even praise can lead to an unhealthy sense of entitlement, says Dr. Ash Nayate, clinical neuropsychologist.

“Narcissism (i.e. a feeling of entitlement) is a sign of unhealthy self-esteem. Narcissistic people don’t see themselves as equal to others, they see themselves as better than others – and the reason they hold this belief is to cover up their fear of ‘not being good enough’,” she says.

Judging people helps alleviate that fear, she says. To help stop the cycle, she believes parents need to lead by example.

“Developing a healthy self-esteem is critical. If as a parent you have low confidence and low self-esteem, your kids are going to pick up on that as well. If you want your kids to be resilient and confident, then you need to work on the confidence and self-esteem within yourself.”

Readily accessible forums to dish out criticism

It is no secret that Millennials are more digitally literate than the rest of us. With most having access to their own mobile phone, laptop and social media accounts, the stage through which they can communicate with others is wide and always available.

“Social media encourages us to be more vocal about criticism. So instead of just judging people quietly, in our mind, we can do it aloud, behind the safety and anonymity of a computer screen,” says Dr. Nayate.

more on page 2
The privacy that social media affords also brings to the fore a trait that Baras calls a "brain fart".

"In my program we consider it a "brain fart" when you do not consider others or the outcome of what you say and only want to say it, at all cost," she says.

She believes the problem is intensified in a society that values external standards and imposes them on the education system through set metrics. "Teachers use marks, tests [and] they flash with standards and rules and this is far away from teaching critical thinking. So, no wonder kids are learning that everything in their life needs to be judged."

From teacher review sites to specialist groups and threads on social media forums, kids today can critique anything about their school, programs or individual people, making up their mind whether something makes the cut or not.

A culture that accepts criticism

With the prominence and popularity of reality TV shows comes the hard truth that our culture is now one of judgement and criticism.

"People are evaluated on the basis of what they’re missing, how they’re not good enough or worthy enough, and what’s ‘wrong’ with them," says Dr. Nayate.

To compound the situation, today’s society is more geared towards materialism and capitalism, she says.

With the aim of being ‘better’, ‘richer’ and ‘more successful’ comes the habit to indulge in self-criticism, another trigger for engaging in a dialog centred around "I am better than this guy because…” or "I am so hopeless at this compared to…”.

"Self-criticism is the first step towards judgement of others. We can only judge others if we’re somehow judgemental of ourselves," says Dr. Nayate.

Striking a balance

So, how do we turn all this ‘judgement’ into something that is more considered, evaluated and more respectful of the people and practices involved in the process?

By understanding the difference between informed decision-making or critical thinking and straight judgement, says Baras.

"Critical thinking is when we present kids with options and teach them to evaluate and consider the advantages and disadvantages between options. Criticism / judgment is considering yourself above others and rating them based on your own individual standard."

The good news is that critical thinking skills can be developed without being critical of others says Dr. Nayate.

"It’s about adopting an attitude of open-mindedness and healthy curiosity. Just like a three year old who always asks “why” - the child isn’t doing it out of judgement or maliciousness, it’s simply a raw desire to learn more about the world."

While critical thinking skills depend on the maturity of the child, Dr. Nayate believes parents can nudge kids in the right direction by role modelling it.

1 Verbalise the thought-process involved in everyday decisions – for example choosing healthier food options ("When I eat fries, I feel a bit sick in the stomach, and the next day I get a headache from all the salt and grease. And then I feel sluggish and lazy, and I just want to sit around at home all day instead of going to the playground with you.")

2 Assist with decisions and evaluations – implement this as a two-step process, she advises: first, acknowledge kids when they have demonstrated critical thinking. For example: “that was a good decision to do your homework before you went to your friend’s house. That way, you can really have fun and you don’t need to rush to get home”.

Secondly, help them assess whether the decision they made was because they accept an idea or because it came from a person they accept. As an example, many teenagers tend to accept information as credible when it comes from their peers or celebrities more so than their parents.

3 Help them put their higher values in perspective – while some children may value hard work or aim for certain levels of achievement, they would also value acceptance, connection with others, happiness, fun and adventure, she says. For example, a child who values health and fitness highly might override them in favour of other values like fitting in with their peers who smoke and thus take up that habit. Encourage them to see when decisions are made based on what we value, rather than on impulse or what feels good at that moment.

Sources:
- Tim Elmore’s blog on ‘Curing a critical spirit in students’ - http://growingleaders.com/blog/curing-critical-spirit-students/