Principals Message

Welcome to Week 8 and the first day of Spring! After a coolish winter, the recent warm weather has been a welcome change. Hopefully, we will get some nice weather on Friday morning for one of Cardiff South’s most wonderful traditions – the Father’s Day Breakfast. As per normal, the BBQ breakfast will kick off at 7:30 under the cola and we will do our best to cope with the ever increasing demand. Dads and Grandads are welcome to join us for breakfast and are free to stay and have a game with the students in the playground before the bell.

Last week, Stage 3 enjoyed being challenged to step outside their comfort zone and try some new things at the Outdoor Education camp. From the feedback the students gave me, many seem to surprise even themselves with what they were able to achieve or overcome. The Stage 3 teachers were incredibly proud of them and complimented them on their behaviour whilst away. Thanks to Mr Carlin, Mr Jardine and Mrs Winterbine who willingly gave up time with their own families to provide Stage 3 with this wonderful opportunity.

More good news – I learned this morning that not 1, but 4 of our students have qualified for the State Athletics Carnival! Congratulations Alexandra and Hannah Brown who both qualified for discuss; Chloe Walandouw for long jump and Milli Windred who has qualified for the third year in a row in the 100m and 200m. What wonderfully talented students we have here at Cardiff South.

Yesterday, quite a few of our staff attended the funeral service for Miss Jan. It was nice to hear how the generosity and selflessness that Miss Jan showed in our school, she also showed within her own family. I was privileged to meet her 5 brothers and sisters and her family are very close-knit. Miss Jan sincerely loved children and invested a lot of time in the lives of those in her life. My favourite story was how she used to keep the freezer stocked with Bubble-O-Bill and Paddle-Pop ice-creams for when her nieces and nephews visited. One nephew went so far as to say that he actually looked forward to being sick, not because he got to stay home from school, but because he got to be looked after by his ‘Auntie Tinie’ (her full name is Jantina) enjoying a limitless supply of ice-blocks. What an amazing legacy she has left us all.

Happy Father’s Day to all our Dads! I look forward to seeing many of you on Friday for breakfast.

David Holland
This week is **SASS Staff Recognition Week**. At Cardiff South we are blessed with the most extraordinary SASS staff team who give their all for our students and school. In the office we have Mrs Janeen Reedman, Mrs Monica Wann and Mrs Donna Onions. Assisting in the classrooms as SLSOs (School Learning Support Officers) are Mrs Juliana Ferfoglia, Mrs Emma Nash, Miss Rhiannon Ward and Mrs Lorraine Roberts (preschool). And of course our evergreen and hardworking GA (General Assistant) Mr Peter Nesbitt is one of the best. We will be acknowledging their work at school with a staff morning tea especially for them, but perhaps you might like to find a way to show your appreciation for the hard work they do in our school. Some ideas: give the office a quick call to say that you appreciate them, drop a little note of appreciation to one of our SLSOs, thank Mr Nesbitt for his work the next time you pass him in the playground.

**School Trivia Night**

Don’t forget to grab a table at the P&C Trivia Night planned for Saturday 12th September. All money raised goes towards helping P&C contribute to prioritised school needs such as the purchasing of new seats for the K-2 students to sit on at recess and lunch. Tickets are $15. You can have 8 on your table or if you don’t have a full table, leave your name with the office and the P&C will pair you up with some other families. Friends outside of the school are welcome to join in on your table if you’d like. See further on in this newsletter for more details.

**PSSA Finals**

Although it was a very rain-affected competition this year, our Junior girls netball team managed to finish 1st after the regular season was complete and have qualified for the semi-finals this Friday. In the semi-finals our girls are scheduled to play Elermore Vale at Nancy Dwyer courts Cardiff at 10am. Families are welcome to come along to spectate and cheer the girls on. Regardless of the result of the semi-final the team will play a second game at 12pm. Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the PSSA soccer and netball competitions this year. Because of the rain-affected season, families are entitled to a partial refund. Once we have received finalised bills from the Crossroads PSSA committee, we will work out what the refund will be and it will be deducted from each students Term 4 account. Your patience in this regard is appreciated.
School Performance Night Postponed
You may recall from an earlier newsletter that we were considering holding a whole-school performance night on Thursday 3rd December. The idea was to give Christmas Carols a rest, but to still have an event where the students had the opportunity to perform. Two of the constraints we’ve had are booking a suitable venue at that time of year; and having sufficient time for the students to rehearse. Term 4 is traditionally our busiest and is therefore not ideal for holding an event such as this. Term 3 would be much better. Therefore, a decision has been made to postpone the event for this year and we are currently looking to secure a date for Term 3 in 2016. Carols will be back, but if the performance night does proceed next year, we will aim to hold Carols in 2017.

Absence Note Reminder
Parents and carers, please remember that if your child is sick and away from school, you are legally required to provide an explanation of the absence within 7 days. In our school you can do this by either sending a note to the class teacher or you can complete an absence notification through the Skoolbag app. Notes cannot be received after 7 days and the absence is recorded as unjustified. It is also our practice for class teachers to send reminder notes if after two days no notification has been received for a recent absence.

Term 4 Basketball Program K-6
For Sport in Term 4, Newcastle Basketball’s Development Team will be visiting our school to deliver an 8 week basketball program available to all students in Years 3-6. The cost of the program is $20 and the students will learn the fundamental skills required in the game of basketball. It will include skills such as ball handling, footwork, dribbling, shooting, rebounding and defence and they will learn the rules of the game. Permission notes were sent home to Stage 2 students last week and Stage 3 students received theirs yesterday. For students to participate in the program, all notes and money must be returned no later than 3:30pm on Friday 11th September.

Term 4 K-2 Swimming program
Just a reminder that permission notes and money for the K-2 Term 4 swimming program at the Viking Fitness centre must be returned by Thursday 17th September.

2016 Enrolments
Planning for the 2016 school year has already begun. If your family will be moving away from the area and your child/ren will be attending a different school for the 2016 school year (and you have not yet notified us), we would appreciate you popping in or phoning the office as it does affect our planning and staffing decisions for next year.

Brodie S Unplugged

Class: 2L

Favourite movie? Spiderman

What is your favourite food? Sausages

What do you do for fun? Play with my cousin

How many siblings do you have? An older sister and brother

Danika and Liam

What do you love about school? Doing Art

When someone says something funny
Preschool Book Week Celebrations -

Upcoming Visit from a Local Children’s Author

Tony Harris is an internationally acclaimed author of a series of six children’s picture books, Wombat stories, and is a local resident in the Cardiff South area. Wombat Stories encompasses multiple fun and creative children’s stories designed to enhance learning about Australia including the Sports, Locations and most importantly the Animals that are within these great shores. QR Codes are used throughout the books to link print & electronic learning together for children of all ages.

We have recently purchased a set of these books for us at preschool, and Tony has offered to come in and share his books with the children in a storytelling session next week, following on from our Book Week celebrations. Please see further on in this newsletter, information about Tony Harris and his Wombat stories, as well as an order form if you would like to purchase any of his books.

Ethics Classes

Ethics Classes are now available in NSW public primary schools as an option for children who do not attend Special Religious Education (Scripture). The NSW government has authorised the charity, Primary Ethics to create curriculum and deliver these classes. Curriculum is available for children from Years K-6.

To enable ethics classes to commence at our school, we require a volunteer Ethics Coordinator and a number of volunteer Ethics Teachers, depending on demand. The Ethics Coordinator acts as a liaison between Primary Ethics and the school and organises the recruitment of the Ethics Teachers. Ethics teachers must attend two days of training and commit to teaching their weekly ethics class for a minimum of one year.

We will commence ethics classes at Cardiff South Public School if and when suitable volunteers can be found and enough demand exists. For more information, visit the website www.primaryethics.com.au or contact the Primary Ethics Regional Manager - Nigel Gilchrist at lakemacquarieeast-region@primaryethics.com.auAlternatively, please make an appointment to speak with Mr Holland.

Spelling Bee

Good luck to Malibu, Olivia and Beth-Ellen who will be competing in the Regional Spelling Bee next Tuesday (8th Sep) at Elermore Vale PS.

Maths Problem of the Week – Early Stage 1

Joe had 15 carrots and a rabbit ate 7. How many carrots does Joe have left?

Name: __________________________ Class: __________

Answer: _________________________
Regional Athletics Carnival
Last Friday, 28th August, five Cardiff South students were part of the Crossroads Zone team to compete at the Hunter Region Athletics Carnival at Glendale. Some of these students left the Stage 3 camp early so they could test their skills against the best athletes in the Hunter. All students tried their best and four managed to finish in the top 3 in their events, therefore qualifying for the NSW PSSA State Athletics Championships on the 14th and 15th October in Sydney. Listed below are the results of each student;

**Milli Windred** - 1st in her 100m and 200m heats, 1st 200m final, 3rd 100m final
**Chloe Walandouw** - 4th 800m, 3rd long jump with a personal best jump of 3.53m
**Hannah Brown** - 3rd junior discus with a throw of 19.09m
**Alexandra Brown** - 3rd senior discus with a throw of 19.42m
**Tyson Reeve** - no placing in 800m (but a great effort)

Congratulations to all of these students and best of luck to Milli, Chloe, Hannah and Alexandra at the State Championships.
Library News

Book Week was a fabulous celebration for our school again this year. The book fair was a raging success. Thank you for all your support. Particular thanks to those families who donated books to our amazing library. The money raised from all the purchases will be used to create inspiring and engaging learning opportunities for all our students. Your support is greatly appreciated. Reordered books should be delivered this week.

This Friday, Steven Herrick will visit our Stage 2 and Stage 3 students for a poetry performance. Students have been enjoying his work over the past few weeks and can look forward to some humourous entertainment in the hall at 11.30.

To coincide with his show, Steven Herrick would like to offer you the opportunity to have his books available on the day for purchase by students and he will be happy to autograph them at the end of the performance.

The books available will be......

Untangling Spaghetti Discount Price: $14
Pookie Aleera is not my boyfriend Discount Price: $15
Bleakboy and Hunter Stand out in the Rain Discount price: $15
WOMBAT STORIES

Wombat Stories encompasses multiple fun and creative children’s stories designed to enhance learning about Australia including the Sports, Locations and most importantly the Animals that are within these great shores. Books from Wombat Stories are aimed at educating children on the beautiful wildlife found in their own backyards while providing interactive and practical resources for parents and teachers. This makes our Wombat Stories a complete learning package through fun and engaging stories for children. These hardcover and electronic books have sold over 10,000 copies and are loved in 32 countries.

Unique to the Wombat Series is the musical style in which they are written. All of the titles include a musical score to enable them to be sung or read. Along with an interactive website, Wombat Stories have re-released all six books with interactivity to make them more than just a book to read. It’s a portal to exploring and learning.

The books have been used by Pre-schools, Kindergartens, Primary Schools, Special Ed classes and Speech Pathologists. The stories have been supplied to Children’s Cancer clinics and used by nurses in Stroke Recovery wards to help patients recover.

Tony has written multiple series on Australian Animals. Tony has also spoken at many Engineering, Technology, Science and Literary conventions, Book Expo America (New York), the 2012 Beijing International Book Fair; and has conducted workshops at several Australian Tertiary Institutes, the most recent being the University of Canberra. In 2014 Tony spoke on “Writing for Children” at the World Literary Summit at Oxford University. Tony has conducted courses, classes and workshops in Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, Philippines, China, Kenya, USA & UK. As well as multiple courses for the Australian Society of Authors on the use of computers in writing. Tony will be the keynote speaker at Book Expo Australia, 2015 in Sydney.

With more great ideas and plans for Wombat and his friends, there is a whole lot more still to come!

www.wombatstories.com.au
Wombat Stories is the dream-child of internationally acclaimed children’s book author Tony Harris. Wombat Stories encompasses multiple fun and creative children’s stories designed to enhance learning about Australia including the Sports, Locations and most importantly the Animals that are within these great shores. QR Codes are used throughout the books to link print & electronic learning together for children of all ages.

Each hardcover book is only $24.95 R.R.P.

As a bonus, purchase the entire set for $124.75 which provides all 6 amazing hardcover books for the price of 5. That’s 1 FREE book!

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ORDER TOTAL: $124.75

For more information please visit: www.wombatstories.com.au

With more great ideas and plans for Wombat and his friends, there is a whole lot more still to come!
In a world where children's toys and playthings constantly become mechanised, digitalised or sanitised it's good to see some things haven't changed – the use of swap cards.

The allure of collecting and swapping cards with your friends at school is something many generations can remember. People of my vintage probably can recall collecting and swapping footy cards, celebrity cards and even cards with the favourite pop groups of the time. What swap cards were popular when you were at school?

There was nothing quite like the feeling of satisfaction which comes from collecting the full set. However getting the full set was an expensive exercise as it usually meant buying more of the products that they were packaged up with, inevitably you'd have five or more of one card and plenty of holes in your collection. How frustrating was that?

But there was nothing as frustrating as almost having a full set and not being able to find anyone at school who was willing to swap with you at the going rate. So on went your negotiation hat as you'd try to outsmart a budding extortionist.

While the fun was in the collecting, the thrill was definitely in the chase.

Fortunately kids can still have the same fun as past generations, as well as the opportunity to learn the same lessons we had. Sometimes the best social lessons kids can learn come from the more dubious interactions they have during lunchtime and recess.

There can be problems
There is no doubt that the swap card craze can cause consternation for adults. Some children can and do take advantage of others in the hierarchical world of the playground. While the majority of interactions kids have with each other at school are positive, there are times when they can be negative, difficult and in extreme cases of a bullying nature.

Kids need the freedom to negotiate their own interactions so they can learn from those experiences both good and bad. The street smarts that children pick up from their free and unrestricted play can be a huge advantage when negotiating tough social situations in school and beyond.

But there are solutions
Teachers and parents need to coach kids in the skills and techniques that they need to negotiate the many situations they meet in the schoolyard. They also need to be cognisant of the fact that some children may take advantage of others. Even so unpleasant experiences can provide great social lessons such as how to avoid the same situation next time, how to handle the disappointment of being taken advantage of and how to negotiate better outcomes.

Parents and teachers need to be aware of bullying behaviours, which by definition are repetitive, intentional behaviours by one or more children on another that rob that child of any power to change the situation. If swap cards are at the centre of bullying then act to protect kids. If not, then it may be best to coach kids to cope or to be smarter next time.

Banning activities such as the use of swap cards robs kids of valuable learning activities.

Similarly a parent who buys a full set of cards for a child robs him of the thrill of the chase, as well as the chance to practise persistence, be organised and negotiate well, which are still valuable skills to have at school and most workplaces as well.

Swap cards. So much fun and so much learning. How good is that!