

Cardiff Connection

Celebrating Excellence, Opportunities & Success

December 2009

Jessica Madden – Experience of a Lifetime.

Jessica has just learned that she has been announced as one of six Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship winners in the state.

This means that Jessica will have the opportunity to spend two weeks in France and Belgium in 2010. Jessica had to make a written application and undergo an interview to progress to the final round. We are very proud of her achievement and envious of her opportunities in 2010.



Christopher Laidler off to Zone Finals

Christopher Laidler has won the Warners Bay Lions Youth of the Year in 2009. This means that Chris will progress to the Zone finals to be held in February. Chris had to undergo an interview, present a five minute speech as well as answer two impromptu questions. Chris spoke very well and handled the impromptu questions with aplomb. I watched the judges; they were too busy listening to even write comments. Well done Chris.



In this Issue



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Cardiff on Sale

I hope many of you took the opportunity on the 26th to roam the revitalised streets of Cardiff and hear our fine musicians entertain. Thanks to Mr Foster who provided us with shelter and power.

Music Night

Another great display by our wonderfully talented students. Thank you to Mr Glassop and Mrs Heggs who work tirelessly for our students.

Head Teacher Administration

Congratulations to Mr Glassop who has been appointed on merit to the Head Teacher Administration position. As of 2010 he will be leading the Creative and Performing Arts team as well as looking after administration.

Computers

I hope by the time you get this newsletter our Year 9 laptops will not only have arrived here but have arrived at your place.

Staff Development Days

Parents are advised that Thursday 17th and Friday 18th have been gazetted as Staff Development Days. This means the final day for student attendance is Wednesday 16th December. Reports will be issued prior to this date.

Year 10 Assembly

Is to be held on Friday 11th at 10.30am. Students are reminded to wear full school uniform on this day in order to be presented with your certificates.

Presentation Day

Wednesday 16th December 10 am. We are looking forward to celebrating our successes.

Year 12 Formal

A wonderful night was had by all. We are eagerly awaiting the results. Year 12 have been invited to morning tea at 11:30am on 17th to share their ATAR news.

School Captains and Vice Captains recently attended a Leadership Day in Sydney courtesy of the P&C. They were addressed by many famous people including David Koch and Bridie from McCloud's Daughters fame. Lots of planning was undertaken during the 4 hour trip to Sydney with a fundraiser, an out of uniform day, for November, planned for the 4th December. They are also holding a barbecue for students on the 11TH December.

Canteen Upgrade

At last we have approval for the canteen upgrade to occur. We have to have the canteen cleared by the 4th December for the area to be gutted. Limited canteen facilities will operate from the hall kitchen for the 2nd last week of term. This may continue for the first few weeks of term 1 2010 depending on the progress of the builders over the holidays. Remember – we always need volunteers- if you can spare some time please let

Annette know so she can include you on the roster for 2010.

Canteen Operating Hours - Term 4

9th – 10th December operating from hall with limited menu.

11th December Closed for the year. Not operating 14-16th.

SRC will be operating a sausage sizzle on 11th.

DEPUTY REPORT

The year of 2009 has seen some wonderful achievements at Cardiff High School. We have students achieving in the areas of sport, public speaking, performance and academically both in classrooms, in external exams and in other external competitions. Year 11 students are just one of the student groups who were complimented on their excellent behaviour whilst representing our school at their Camp and when students are out and about in the community we often receive comments on their exemplary manners, behaviour and attitude. This is a great way of promoting the fine young students attending Cardiff High School. Our School Leaders, Daniel Mani and Anna Milat impressed all of the NSW Deputy Principals at the State Conference in September with their singing ability and embody the spirit of our great school.

The new uniform is being worn proudly and when we have all students in the new style it will be wonderful. I would remind all parents that the shoes to be worn are of a black substantial leather style and this is an OH&S requirement when students are in Science, , Home Economics/Technology/Industrial Arts and in Art classrooms. Safety is the focus of wearing the black substantial leather shoes and those constructed of canvas or fabric are not acceptable. (Please see the attached uniform requirements)

I would also like to remind all parents and students that Sport at Cardiff High is a mandatory part of the curriculum in the Years 7 through to 10. Students are required to attend a sport of their choice each Wednesday and we are fortunate in having a wide variety of sports to choose from. If a student is injured and/or sick and cannot attend sport they will need a signed parental note to present to the Deputy Principal to gain an "early leavers" pass on that day. Parents are requested to avoid making appointments on that afternoon where ever possible.

Wednesday is also the ONLY day that students should wear their joggers and if they have a lesson with practical requirements they will need to bring their safe, sturdy leather shoes to school to wear in that particular lesson.

I would also like to remind parents that any days where students are absent a note is required to be given to the roll call teacher on the first day back after the absence. The rolls are marked each day and parents/guardians are asked to supply a note explaining the absence so that on the Semester One

and Semester Two reports there are as few unexplained absences as possible. In the competitive environment of work all prospective employers do take note of the absences when choosing their employees. It is essential that when parents wish to discuss any matters with either the Principal or Deputy Principal that they contact the school first to make an appointment. This ensures that a specific time may be allotted to discuss the educational progress or any concerns which you may have pertaining to your child. We are more than happy to speak with any parents who contact the school, however, it is not possible to always speak with parents when appointments are not made.

Cardiff High School does have a team of dedicated Year Advisers and a Supervisor of Girls to speak to parents regarding matters specific to students. These people are the first "port of call" to raise any concerns. The Year Advisers and Supervisor of Girls for 2010 are:

Year 7	Mr S. James
Year 8	Mr B. Kinniard
Year 9	Ms H. Cleary
Year 10	Ms K. O'Donnell
Year 11	Mrs C. Heggs
Year 12	Mr A. de Beer
Supervisor of Girls -	Mrs K. Osborne

We also have two School Counsellors who are available for students to discuss any concerns they may have, Mrs D. Scully and Mrs J. Post. They are at school on a Monday, Tuesday and half a day on a Wednesday and a Thursday.

Cardiff High School also has a team of hard working and dedicated Student Learning Support Officers who assist students in the classroom environment with their learning. These people include:

Mr W. Cotton, Mrs B. Hosking, Mrs M. Spicer and Mrs C. Moore.

We appreciate the comments and feedback from our parent body and community as we are constantly seeking to further refine the policies and practices at Cardiff High School. Communication is essential in any organisation and it is only when we raise any concerns that practice can change.

We also would appreciate assistance by parents in our school in any way which parents can provide. The school canteen is being rebuilt over the Christmas holiday period and I know that Mrs Annette Salmon (our canteen manager) is in DESPERATE need of more volunteers.

The canteen will be a beautiful place to volunteer some time and you can always be assured that you will be made very welcome and appreciated.

Our Parents and Citizens association is also keen to welcome new parents and the President – Mrs Kris Eyre would like to extend a warm invitation to all parents to attend the meetings. They are held at the School on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00pm. It provides another opportunity to once again have insight into school events and assist

in ensuring that Cardiff High School continues to be a great school.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of the teaching and Administration staff for all of their efforts in 2009 as without their dedication, professionalism and commitment we would not have a school. Thanks also to all of the parents with whom I have communicated this year. I do understand that sometimes when I do ring you it is not always great news, however, I do appreciate the support and understanding as we are all working together for one purpose: to ensure that the future citizens of Cardiff High and surrounding community are the best possible people they can be.

Helen Matthews
Deputy Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 9	P&C Meeting 7pm
December 10	Yr 9 Excursion to Nelson Bay
December 11	Yr 10 Presentation Day in Hall at 10.30am
December 16	HSC results available
December 16	Yrs 7, 8, 9, 11 Presentation Day in Hall at 9.45am
December 16	Last day of school for students
January 27	Staff Development Day (no students)
January 28	Yrs 7, 11, 12 return
January 29	Yrs 8, 9, 10 return

P & C NEWS

Just a reminder that the last P&C Meeting for this year will be on Wednesday December 9 at 7pm. Hope to see you there.

On behalf of the P&C Association I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Kris Eyre
P&C President

A message from the Australian Drug Foundation:

Dear Parent,

Are you concerned about your child drinking alcohol? You have every right to be. Australian research shows that 96 percent of kids under the age of 17 have tried alcohol, with 21 percent drinking every week.

Why should you be concerned?

New research shows young people's brains can be seriously damaged from drinking alcohol. There is now evidence to suggest that binge drinking destroys the growing brain's ability to relay information between cells. One third of 12-17 year old drinkers are consuming harmful levels. It indicates kids have easy access to alcohol and are drinking too much.

What can you do?

As a parent, you are the most important role model for your child. Your attitude to alcohol and personal behaviour will have a big influence on your child and the decisions they make:

- Talk to your child and be involved in their life – if you know what is going on and can talk openly, you are more likely to be able to influence your child's attitude towards drinking.
- Know where your teenager is – check where the parties are going to be, whether they are supervised and if alcohol is being served.
- Talk to other parents – presenting a united front makes it easier for everyone.
- Use alcohol responsibly yourself and be a responsible host. Show your children that you can have fun without alcohol too.
- Encourage your child not to drink until they are at least 16 years old.
- Point out the risks – don't be afraid to disapprove of unsafe drinking behaviour.
- Inform yourself – log onto www.adf.org.au for more information.

What are we doing?

In most Australian states and territories, it is still legal for anybody to provide your child with any amount of alcohol on private property, without your permission. Without the right laws in place, there is nothing to protect young people against drinking a damaging amount and drinking without parent consent.

In Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania, it is illegal to supply alcohol to kids under the age of 18 without a parent's permission. We believe the protection of young people in those cases should be extended to all young Australians regardless of where they live.

The Australian Drug foundation is campaigning to strengthen Australia's laws to protect young people. Register your support for a national law by visiting www.adf.org.au

Yours Sincerely,

John Rogerson
CEO
Australian Drug Foundation

Mathematics Report

As the end of the school year fast approaches we are finishing up on our teaching programs for the year. Even though we have started to collect textbooks issued to students earlier in the year we still have new work to present to students and we expect every student to have their exercise book, pens, ruler and calculator with them every lesson. We will continue to present work to classes up until presentation day. It might be appropriate for some of our students to list some of these items on their Santa wish list to ensure they have them ready for the school year in 2010.

We have asked all students to return all textbooks to us as they will not be issued with a textbook next year unless outstanding texts are returned. If you locate any from previous years we would gladly accept them.

Over the next couple of weeks we will be forming our classes for 2010. We will consider such things as results from 2009, application to work and where we believe a student will be best able to further develop their mathematical knowledge and skills. Years 9 and 10 will have graded classes that allow students to complete as much as possible of the stage 5 course depending on skill level to give them the best chance of achieving a high grade for the School Certificate. All students will be exposed to the stage 5.1 outcomes. Completion of stage 5.2 and as much as possible of stage 5.3 is essential for those students wanting to study the higher mathematics courses in year 11.

For Year 8 in 2010 we are trialling a different system. We plan to have 2 parallel classes, called 8ma1 and 8ma2, for the top 56 students and another 2 parallel classes, called 8ma3 and 8ma4, for the next group of students. At the end of semester one, we will evaluate the progress of all students and consider class changes for semester two.

We in the Mathematics faculty wish you all a wonderful Christmas and summer break and look forward to teaching your children in 2010.

Miss H Kelsey
Head Teacher Mathematics.



Sport Report

A Great Year In Sport

Cardiff High has fielded some inspiring sporting teams. The success of the Cardiff High Boys volleyball team in becoming Joint Regional Finalists is a testimony to the determination of these boys. They committed to training after school to improve skills and shocked long time Regional Finalists, Forster by taking sets off them. As a result of this we had 2 students picked in the Regional Hunter Representative Team, Chad Witherdin and Thomas Goodwin

The Bill Turner Cup Soccer, also has a great year showcasing some future talent, that is being developed by a dedicated Mr Gaul and Mr Mungoven.

Carissa Borrow capped a great year off with a win at the State Swimming Carnival. Kate Fairchild from our support unit, who also competed at State Swimming as well as Ben Milton, our 17yrs Boy Champion.

Clare Williams again represented the region at Cross Country as well as our junior representatives Steven Sheridan and Stephanie Richardson.

Kristen Stanton continued to develop her netball career and represented at Regional level as well as outside school being picked in the Newcastle Under 15's Representative side which won the State Championship.

Cyan and Lilli Garvey-Callaghan continued to excel at diving and Jake McCann and Blake Caldwell kept Cardiff U15 representative honours alive in AFL.

Allannah Jobson competed at State Athletics reaching the finals in hurdles and was selected in the State Relay Team.

Ms S Holmes

Sports Coordinator

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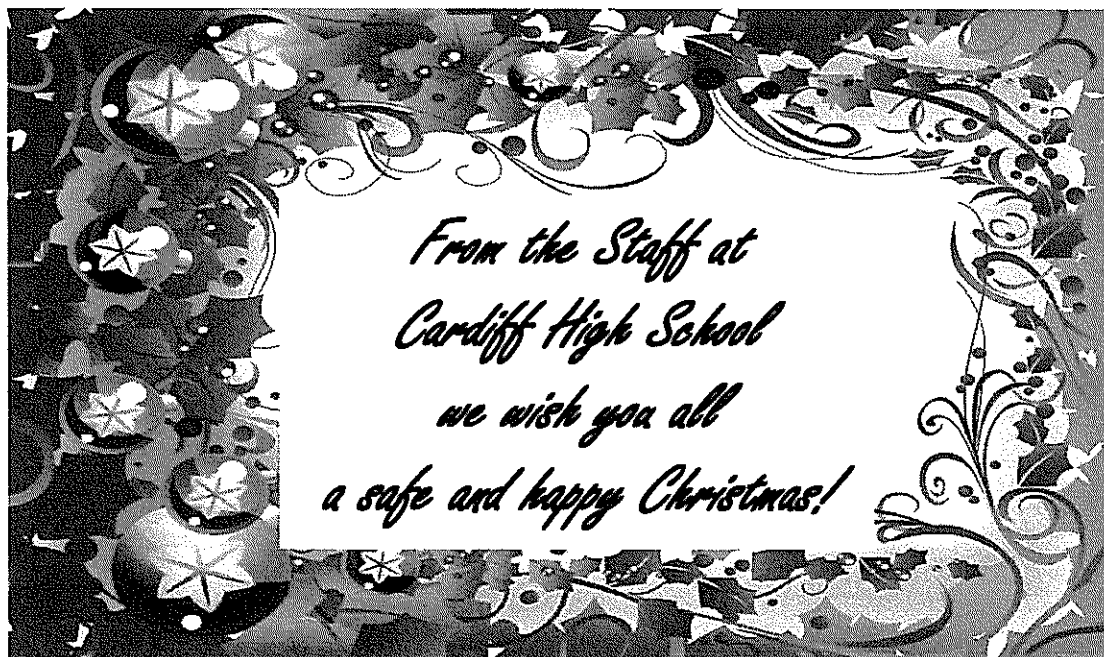
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White featured blouse

Senior Boys

Formal shorts, black in colour
White collared school shirt/polo
Black jumper

Senior Girls

Black/Teale Tartan skirt or Black shorts
White featured blouse
Black jumper

WINTER

Junior Boys

Black Trousers/Formal shorts
White collared school shirt/polo
Black Jumper
Black Polar Fleece top
Microfibre jacket

Junior Girls

Black/Teale tartan skirt or Black trousers
White collared school shirt/polo
Black jumper
Black Polar fleece top
Microfibre jacket

Senior Boys

Formal trousers
White collared school shirt/polo
Black jumper
Black Polar Fleece top

Senior Girls

Black/Teale Tartan skirt or Black trousers
White featured blouse
Black jumper
Black Polar Fleece top

NOTE:

- All shirts & jumpers are to be plain and free from logos (excepting CARDIFF logo), without stripes or other patterns
 - Shorts and skirts are to be of a modest length
 - All footwear must be of sturdy construction that completely encases the foot (preferably leather in BLACK)
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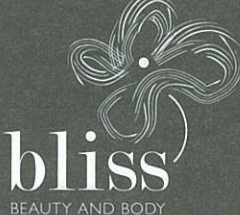
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