

Cardiff Connection



Celebrating Excellence, Opportunities & Success

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Cardiff High Coffee Shop

Thursday 10th April

Open 9:30-2:30pm in the School Hall

Come along for Cake and Coffee

An event for our Hospitality, Retail and support Unit Students

To make a booking call 49549966



From the Principal

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As we come to the end of Term 1, my first at Cardiff High School, I have been reflecting on the past eleven weeks and the great variety of activities and educational opportunities available to students. I have thoroughly enjoyed observing a wide range of student lessons, school processes and programs and becoming an active part of school life. The wide held belief that the school is a 'well-kept secret' with a 'country feel' has certainly been confirmed in my eyes.

Leading into the April school holidays, I would like to wish all students, staff and parents a happy Easter with their families and acknowledge Australia's servicemen and women, past and present, for the upcoming Anzac Day services on 25 April, 2014.

Parent/Teacher Interviews



Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent/Teacher Interviews on Monday 31 March. This was the first time that the school has used an online booking system for the interviews and the positive feedback received from parents and teachers means we will continue with this process for the next round of interviews in June. We also introduced a chime to indicate the start/ending of each five minute interview, perhaps surprising a few members of staff to begin with, however, was also well-received. In total, we had close to 170 bookings for parents and families of students attend the event.

New School Uniform Items

Following consultation with students, the school P&C and school uniform supplier, Alinta, I am pleased to announce that we will soon be introducing two new winter items to the Cardiff High School uniform. The new black, knitted jumper and cardigan will be on sale in the school uniform shop, located in the Administration building, from the beginning of Term 2.

Staff Uniform Policy



As you may have seen recently in the media, school teachers in New South Wales DEC schools will be required to adhere to a new staff uniform policy from the beginning of Term 2, encouraging a more professional and 'corporate' look. Some key features of the new policy include staff having a higher standard of dress for formal occasions, such as Parent/Teacher Interviews and Annual Presentation events. The policy also addresses attire such as the wearing of t-shirts and thongs, which are now deemed inappropriate.

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We are in the process of installing 40 new bins in playground areas. The new bins are part of an overall plan to significantly upgrade school appearance and amenities. Through this process students are encouraged to take greater responsibility for maintaining the upkeep of their school environment.

Library Furniture



The school library is undergoing a rapid transformation in accommodating a growing range of classes and supporting Cardiff High School's 21st century students. Under the guidance of librarian, Heather Cleary, the library, or Information Centre, is moving away from the traditional model towards a more dynamic learning space. In support of this, a portion of the school's funding for 2014 has been used to purchase furniture used by senior students during their study periods, as well as new tables that allow the library configuration to be quickly altered to cater for lessons, workshops and presentations.

Bulk Waste Clean Up

Thank you to the Year 9/10 Work Studies class who have been assisting me with the bulk waste clean up. So far we have made good progress emptying the school storage space and have also supported two faculty areas to offload over four skip bins worth of unused furniture and resources.

Mr Gareth Erskine

Principal

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Dates to Remember

Wednesday April 9	P&C Meeting 7pm in the Admin. Building
Friday April 11	Last day of school
Monday April 28	Staff Development Day (NO STUDENTS)
	First day of Term 2 (ALL)

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Tuesday April 29	STUDENTS)
Friday May 2	Vaccinations - All Yr7 plus Yr9 Boys
Monday May 12 to Friday May 16	NAPLAN
Wednesday May 14	P&C Meeting 7pm in the Admin. Building
Tuesday May 20	School Athletics Carnival
Tuesday May 20	ICAS - Computer Skills

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Deputy Report

Cardiff Connection provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of students and staff. It can also be an opportunity to re-enforce common expectations which sometimes slip during the term.

The two areas I would like to address are Uniform and Attendance.

Uniform

The school's policy, endorsed by the Cardiff Community, is that uniform should be worn. We believe that the wearing of school uniform:

- Develops a school identity and fosters positive community perceptions,
- Develops a student's sense of pride and belonging
- Ensures Occupational Health & Safety guidelines are met (especially in practical rooms)
- Enables us to increase the safety of students in our care by making visitors and intruders clearly identifiable
- Makes school clothing affordable by not having peer pressure to wear the latest fashions.

With winter and colder weather approaching please ensure that your son / daughter wears the appropriate school uniform to avoid any conflict with the above policy. Do not be misled by students who claim "this is accepted by the teachers".

Main concerns:

1. Jumpers (no hoods, correct colour {Black} and no motifs blazed across the front or back)
2. Jeans of any colour are unacceptable
3. Girls who insist on wearing shorts which are too short
4. Tights are unacceptable – Dresses with stockings are acceptable.

Your help in this matter is appreciated. You will find the Uniform Shop flyer attached.

Attendance

With reports coming out soon it is vital that all parents and carers catch up with any unexplained absences so they do not appear as unexplained on their child's report. An unexplained absence is any absence that has:

- Not been explained with a returned letter to the roll call teacher
- Been explained but with an unjustified reason for the absence.

Unjustified reasons include any explanations that pertain to the lack of organisation or general due diligence of the students involved, eg. Sleeping in, missing the bus, forgetting assignments etc.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances or teacher error, the school will not reprint student reports to adjust absence details.

Exemption forms are available from the deputies for students taking leave for holidays, operations or other exceptional circumstances. When approved the leave will not be counted as absences on the student's record.

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At the Cardiff High School Parents and Citizens Association Annual General Meeting held on 19 March, the following were elected as the 2014 office bearers:

Kim Knight	President
Kristine Morgan	Vice President
Susan Wilson	Treasurer
Kim Taylor	Secretary
Juli-Ann Niass	Canteen Treasurer

We would like to welcome our new Treasurer, Susan Wilson and thank our outgoing Treasurer, Katrina Fennell for a job very well done!

The Cardiff High School Parents and Citizens (P&C) meet on the 2nd Wednesday of most months during school term in the administration staff room at 7.00pm. Meeting dates are marked on the school calendar.

All parents, carers and community members are encouraged to attend meetings and share in discussions. It is an ideal way to get up-to-date information, to hear about the opportunities for your child, helping decide how funds are allocated, ask questions and gain a better understanding of school policies, curriculum and activities. Our meetings are casual and friendly. We would love to see some new faces.

Fundraising relies purely on the funds raised through the canteen and contribute to the many ways that the P&C support the school. The P&C's areas of funding assistance in 2013 was towards the installation of an air conditioning system in the library, machinery in the woodworking department and state and regional sport representation.

The P&C thank the current canteen volunteers who give generously of their time, but additional volunteers are needed for the success of the canteen operation. If you have a spare day or an hour or two, even once a month, your help and support would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to assist please contact our lovely Canteen Supervisors, Louise Stewart or Sue Smith.

In 2012, the P&C introduced a 'Community Volunteer Award' in recognition of the many volunteers we have in our school. The award recipients for 2013 are Greg Wales (former teacher) for having and continuing to audit the books each year and Lyn Tranter for assisting in the canteen for a number of years, her youngest child being 25 years of age.

The recipients will have their name appear on an Honour Board and receive a certificate and school engraved pen.

The P&C support the wearing of the correct uniform. Any student, who is genuinely unable to comply with the school uniform requirements due to financial reasons, is encouraged to make contact with the school Principal. If you have any unused uniforms at home and would like to donate them to the school, it would be greatly appreciated.

Kim Knight
President

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Penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2013



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must **NOT STOP your vehicle** at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

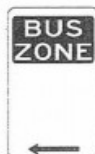
\$304
+ 2 POINTS



Means that you have no more than **2 minutes** for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within **3 metres of your vehicle**.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

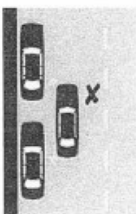
\$169
+ 2 POINTS



Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are **not allowed to stop your vehicle** unless you are driving a bus.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

\$304
+ 2 POINTS



DOUBLE PARKING

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

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- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: \$304 + 2 points, or STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing: \$405 + 2 points
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: \$169 + 2 points
- STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: \$506



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NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for all Australian students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This year's the tests will be on the 13th, 14th and 15th of May. The 16th of May is a catch-up day, where students who missed a test can complete it.

NAPLAN tests literacy and numeracy skills developed over time through the school curriculum. There are five exams across the three testing days: Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), Numeracy with a calculator and Numeracy without a calculator. It is very important that your child has their calculator with them on the day of the Numeracy test (Thursday, 15th May).

Most students would have already completed NAPLAN tests in Years 3 and 5 and are therefore familiar with the tests. We have a tradition of very high attendance and excellent behaviour during the NAPLAN tests and we expect the same this year.

All students in Years 7 and 9 are expected to complete the tests. A letter containing more information about NAPLAN will soon be sent home to parents. An information brochure for parents/carers follows. If you have concerns about your child participating in the NAPLAN tests please phone Mrs Summerville to discuss the matter on 49549966.

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NAPLAN 2014

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



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Information for parents

What is NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?

NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

What will be tested and how?

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the national *Statements of Learning* for English and mathematics, which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?

NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or the principal. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child's preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?

All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated. A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions, or who has recently arrived in Australia and is from a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can provide you with more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

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How is NAPLAN performance measured?

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?

Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 16 May 2014.

Will I receive a report on my child's performance?

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- visit www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child's school
- contact your state or territory's education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2014 tests timetable

	Tuesday 13 May	Wednesday 14 May	Thursday 15 May
Year 3	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes
Year 7	Language conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy Calculator 40 minutes Non-calculator 40 minutes
Year 9	Language conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy Calculator 40 minutes Non-calculator 40 minutes

- Language conventions includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, there is one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.



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Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Surveys for Year 9 and 10 students

The *Healthy Schools Healthy Futures* Program aims to help improve the health and wellbeing of young people through building their resilience. Resilience includes personal skills such as communication and cooperation, self-esteem, empathy, problem-solving, self-awareness, and setting appropriate goals and aspirations. Building resilience may decrease the likelihood of students engaging in risky health behaviours such as cigarette smoking and drinking alcohol.

In 2014, *Healthy Schools Healthy Futures* will conduct an on-line survey of students in Years 9 and 10. The survey asks students questions about resilience characteristics, health risk behaviours, and experiences of bullying. The data collected is useful for identifying the resilience needs of the student group, and for planning strategies to be implemented within the classroom and whole school environment to further support resilience and well-being.

The data collection team will be at the school in Term 3, during Week 7. Parent consent is required for the survey. Most parents of students in Year 10 were asked in 2011 or 2013. Parents of students in Year 9, and those Year 10 students who have enrolled since previous surveys, will be asked for consent in 2014. Parents are sent an information pack and a consent form, to be returned to the school or sent via a reply paid envelope.

Your support of the *Healthy Schools Healthy Futures* Program and your child's participation in the surveys is very much appreciated.

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Library Report

Updated Senior Study Centre

Cardiff High School Library has listened to our senior cohort and a Senior Study Centre has been created exclusively for Years 11 and 12 within the library. The new round tables encourage both small study groups and individual study, and since the library has made laptops and iPads available when not booked by classes, students are able to take full advantage of opportunities to complete assignments and finish homework in air-conditioned comfort!



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Year 7 Great Aussie Bush Camp

"A few weeks ago Year 7 went on a trip to the Great Aussie Bus Camp accompanied by Mrs Hunter, Ms O'Donnell, Mr Kinniard, Ms Woodbury, Mr Welch, Mr Myers and Mrs Hosking. This was a great bonding experience and will always be remembered by the campers.

There were many activities to do including Mud-World, Giant Swing, High Ropes, Vertical Challenge and Canoeing. There were four groups of students and we all went and did one of these activities at a time, completing all of them by the end of camp.

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Most students seem to think that the Giant Swing was their favourite and I agree. The adrenaline rush you get when you came flying down was just amazing. The students also thought that the night game, Commando, was awesome. We had to dodge in and out of the bushes to avoid being spotted by the teachers and their flashlights.

The food was good for camp food and there was plenty of it, especially icecream!

In the end all the students enjoyed themselves and the teachers are sorry if your kids were hyper active when they got home" Caleb Gill - Year 7 student and camper.



Our trip to the Great Aussie Bush Camp this year was a great success. Thankyou to all of the staff that supported the camp, including the wonderful team that came with me and the staff here who took our classes while we were away. Thankyou to Ruby Gash and Jack Monaghan, our SRC members, for their help and support with the Year 7 students during the camp. All of the students with us were amazing, learning new skills and challenging themselves in ways they didn't think themselves capable. I hope the experiences and memories last a lifetime.

Ms O'Donnell
Year 7 Adviser

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CYBER SAFETY/LEGAL AID WORKSHOPS AT CARDIFF HIGH SCHOOL

On Tuesday March 18 Constable Nathan Johns presented a Cyber Safety program to Year 7. Constable Johns discussed case studies of students who have been involved in legal matters concerning Facebook and texting. Students were encouraged to ask him questions throughout his presentation.

Students were engaged with his presentation and realised the seriousness of how cyber safety is an important matter.



On Wednesday March 19 Kirsty Harrison from Legal Aid came to the school to present the following topics:

- 1) Sexting and Cyberbullying Workshop for Year 8.

This was a scenario based workshop exploring the criminal law outcomes involved in social media and technology use.



- 2) Young People and the Criminal Law for Year 12

This presentation introduced students to criminal jurisdiction of the Children's Court, diversionary and sentencing options as well as young people's right in custody.

3) Cyber Safety and the Laws for Year 11 Community and Family Studies. This was a scenario based workshop focusing on the laws of privacy in particular the cyber world. This information supported the topic they are currently studying being Resource Management.

Mrs K Osborne
Girls Adviser

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Sport Report

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

AGE CHAMPIONS

	BOYS	GIRLS
12	JAYDEN MURRAY	CIARA IKIHEGA
13	JYE CALLAGHAN-SIMANDL	MEGAN LOWERY
14	JORDAN McGAW	TAHLA PONT
15	RILEY TAYLOR	CELESTE ALLEY
16	BROCK TAYLOR	SARA EVANS

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17	THOMAS STONE	SARA WOODBRIDGE
18+	DREW LAMBERT	GRACE DIXON

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

It was a close competition for this year's Cross Country House Champion, with strong competition in all age groups. The winning champion house was Yirrig, closely followed by Valtiri in 2nd, Waru in 3rd and Kalori in 4th. The final opportunity for House Sporting Championship will be at the Athletics Carnival in Week 4 next Term. Who will reign supreme?

TERM 1 WRAP-UP

Cardiff High School have represented in the Regional Combined High School's Knockout competition in Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Touch, Open Boys and Junior Boys Cricket, Open and Junior Rugby League, Open Boys Football and Open Girls Netball this term. The Netball Girls placed runner up in the Westlakes Zone Gala Day and qualified to compete at the Regional Carnival. Both Basketball teams won through to the Regional quarter finals, but the best performing teams thus far have been both the Boys and Girls Volleyball who played in the Regional semi-finals. Congratulations!

Coming up next term the Boys Football team continue on their competition after their win against HSPA and we have Baseball, Open Girls Football and both Boys and Girls Hockey.

Numerous students have also been selected to attend various Representative Trials:

Congratulations to Tulia Palozzi and Lucas Borrow who have been selected in the Hunter Women's Football and Hunter U15's AFL teams respectively.

Congratulations to Felly McHughes who was selected in the team to represent the Westlakes Zone in the Hunter Region U15 Rugby Leagues trials.

Congratulations to James Broderick who has been selected to continue on towards NSW CHS selection in Law Bowls.

Congratulations, also, to Blake Windred and Piper Prince who have been selected to continue on towards NSW CHS selection in Golf.

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