28 August 2015

Principal’s Report

Next week is a big week for our senior students on an OP (Overall Position) pathway. On Tuesday and Wednesday (1st and 2nd September) they will be completing the QCS (Queensland Core Skills) Test. This test will have 4 parts: Extended Written Response, Multiple Choices (x2) and Short Response. It tests the students understanding of various subjects through the Common Curriculum Elements (CCEs). Examples of CCEs include: justifying, classifying, analysing, calculating, etc. A full list of the CCEs can be found at the following link:


Our College explicitly starts teaching the CCEs from year 7. Every classroom that you walk though has the poster “Learning Goals/CCE”. Each lesson the teacher will state to the students what the learning goal is for the lesson and what CCE they will be covering. By explicitly teaching the CCE our students are better prepared for all types of assessment, school based and external exams (such as NAPLAN and QCS Test).

The success of this method of teaching is apparent in our latest NAPLAN results. I am very excited to publish these results and it is something we should be proud of. You should have already received a newsflash that came out earlier in the month. A summary of our year 9 results (the blue line) can be viewed in the tables below:

![Graphs showing NAPLAN results]

This data shows that our results over the last 3 years are trending upwards in all areas of NAPLAN. It also demonstrates that we are clearly going against the trend of the State and the Nation where some of their results are decreasing.

We recently celebrated the successes of our entire student cohort at an Academic Award Ceremony for results on the Semester 1 reports. We acknowledged excellent achievement by awarding eligible students with a Gold, Silver or Bronze Academic Award and matching tie pin. The number of students who received this award has increased significantly and the students are to be congratulated on their focus and effort to achieve such wonderful results.

Another great celebration we’ve had at CSC lately is Science Week. From the 17th to the 21st August we had over 150 primary students from the Coorparoo community come to CSC to participate in Science Week. It was a great activity where students had to find out who killed Humpty Dumpty and for many of these students it was their first time in a science laboratory. We also spent a week at Coorparoo State School with a few displays in their hall showing primary students some of the experiments you can do in science. Our STEM students also put on displays throughout the week demonstrating how to cook using solar power and some other interesting experiments. I’d like to thank Melissa Roussos and the Science Department, including the prac teachers we have from university at the moment, for all their hard work in putting on an amazing week.
One last celebration that I’d like to mention is Cabaret. This was such an amazing event and the talent here at CSC is something special. What wonderful opportunities there are for students to excel in so many different areas. I’m not sure which was my favourite act, but the senior music class was certainly an act that has stuck in my mind. Thank you to Amelia Hamilton-Smith, Kate Gardiner and Sally McLain (who also performed) for all they have done to make this such a wonderful event. I must also thank the Arts Support Group (parents and community members) who give of their own time to fundraise and support the students.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Caltex at Camp Hill for their generous sponsorship of the 2015 Caltex All Rounder Prize which is to be awarded at our Presentation Evening. It is through the continued support of this local business that one of our students will once again receive this prestigious award. I encourage our parents and students to support local businesses who in turn support our College and our students.

**Kristie de Brenni**

**Principal**

**Mathematics & Science Department**

**Stretton Maths Challenge Results**

Congratulations to our four student teams for achieving great results at their first ever Mathematics Challenge. I would like to thank two of our Maths teachers, Mr Choi and Mr Leng and pre-service teacher Ms O’Callaghan who assisted and supported these students and consequently they achieved some wonderful results on the day. A special thank you to Troy Thompson for transporting students and staff to and from the venue on the day.

Results were as follows:

- Junior Division 14th place
- Intermediate Division  
  - Team 1 6th place  
  - Team 2 17th place  
- Senior Division 7th place

**National Science Week (17-21 August)**

Both Science staff and students were very busy during National Science Week. Ms Harrison and our pre-service teachers from University of Queensland, Ms Bannan, Ms O’Callaghan and Ms Kao have spent many weeks organising and planning a variety of exciting Science activities for both our students and students from Coorparoo State School and East Brisbane State School. Mrs Weitkus and Ms Green assisted with the Wednesday Forensics workshops which saw approximately 150 primary students buzzing around our laboratories with such excitement.

On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday a group of year 9 and 10 students ran science workshops at Coorparoo State School as part of their program for the week. The primary students were so enthusiastic to participate in mini experiments and learn more about Science from students at CSC. Thank you to Ms Bannan, Emily Kinchin, Emily Herd, Donna Mills, Madhavi Patel, Toby Kooznetzoff, Bryan Truong and Tolkin Meyers for running these activities.

On Wednesday, 60 students from East Brisbane State School and 75 students from Coorparoo State School attended our College and participated in a 90 minute Forensic Crime workshop to solve the mystery “Who Cracked Humpty Dumpty?” A majority of these students had never been in a Science laboratory and worked extremely well to successfully solve the crime. We look forward to continuing partnerships in both Science and Mathematics with both of these primary schools.

Finally, the CSC STEM group and Ms Harrison organised a range of lunch time activities for students to participate in throughout the week. They ran a trivia and solar cooking competition. The winners of the canteen vouchers for the trivia competition were:
Mr Lindert is attending the College to provide the students with a demonstration on solar cooking using a Fresnel lens. This lens is similar to that used in light house lights and those used in eye recognition software. Thank you to Mr Lindert for taking his time to share this with the students.

Doctor David Thiel (Griffith University) visited the Senior Physics class during National Science Week and took a lesson on how to measure magnetic fields around everyday household objects. Students are currently completing a task on magnetic fields and their impact on health.

Thank you to the Science team and students at Coorparoo for making this week such a success.

Melissa Roussos
Head of Department Mathematics & Science

Year 7 Maths Test Change

The year 7 Maths test has been changed from Week 7 to Week 8.

Deadly Choices Day

A group of Indigenous Junior Secondary Students attended the Brisbane Broncos training session on Thursday 6th August. All involved had a great day, meeting Broncos players as well as the Deadly Choices Ambassadors. After the meet and greet, students participated in a range of rugby league skills and drills. We finished the day with a tour of the Bronco’s training facilities and BBQ lunch.

Special Thanks to Troy Thompson and Andrew from Deadly Choices for organising such a great day.

Ashleigh Thomson
Junior Secondary Coordinator

P&C News

We are so lucky to have such talented students. Cabaret 2015 was an amazing display of that talent. We had great food and so many helpers. Thank you to parents past and present, extended families for setting up, manning the bar, selling raffle tickets and packing away. The performances covered all grades from 7 to 12 and they crossed many music styles, pop, folk, rock and classical.

If you missed out, don’t despair there is more to come ..... Arts Week in Term 4 will showcase static art, film, television, instrumental music, voice and dance. Watch your notices for dates. Our ASG raffles this year are going to support our Polynesian Dancers who have been invited to compete in Sydney at the National Championships.

Some parents from the P&C attended the High School Expo hosted by Coorparoo State School this week, we talked to prospective parents about just how great our family is. Things like our Cabaret, our fantastic Naplan results, various sporting activities across the school and so much more.

The P&C is involved in many different aspects of the school and you are always welcome to come to one of our meetings to see what we do. Both the Arts Support Group (ASG) and P&C meet on the third Monday of each month, just outside the Principals office. I hope to see you there at our next meeting.

Georgina Kinchin
President
P&C

2015/2016 Entertainment Book

Remember you can still buy your Entertainment book, we have hard copies left as well as online, just follow the link;
https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/913g682

20% of every Membership we sell contributes towards Coorparoo Secondary College P&C!

For just $65, you’ll receive over $20,000 worth of valuable offers in the new 2015 | 2016 Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and surrounds Entertainment™ Membership!

Use just a few of the hundreds of 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, and you’ll more than cover the cost. You will also receive additional Member-only benefits until 1 June 2016!


The more Entertainment™ Memberships we sell, the more we raise, so please forward these details to your family and friends!

Thank you for your support

From the Guidance Desk

Book Review: “He’ll Be OK – Growing Gorgeous Boys into Good Men” by Celia Lashlie

“About 80 per cent of men’s communication is silent and if men are communicating with other men, that ratio rises to about 90 percent. The challenge for women is to recognise the communication that’s occurring in the silence and trust it, rather than insisting that everything be openly discussed.” (page 141)

Parents of teenaged boys are provided with an insight into what is going on in the in the depths of the male teenage brain. This includes an analogy of the bridge of adolescence. Celia Lashlie describes this bridge as going from the age of 11 to the age of 18. The beginning She stresses that from ages 13 to 14 boys need tight rules to avoid them falling off the “bridge”. The traps that are below the bridge are include alcohol use, cars, drugs and sex – all of which can create major problems for all teenagers. Making friends at the ages of 11 through to 13 is important and as the young men mature at the ages of 15 to 18 the rules gradually diminish.
“I first became aware of male intuitive skills in my discussions with Year 10 boys, those delightfully obnoxious know-it-alls who, in a matter of months, have been transformed from fresh-faced boys into a species of alien that has a concentration span of 30 seconds if the subject fits their definition of interesting, and who are unable to do anything more that grunt when asked a question. Obnoxious they may be, but it’s not all bad news. There are some fairly amazing things going on below the surface, … things that had huge potential in allowing the adults in his world to believe he really will be OK.”

Celia Lahsle’s book has a basis in a project within boy’s schools in New Zealand. Celia worked of a project called the Good Man Project with school leadership groups as well as visiting 25 schools and talking to over 200 year 10 classes about growing up to be a good man in New Zealand. There are chapters that cover About a Boy: Inside their Heads, External Forces: Alcohol, Drugs, Sport – and Girls, Stop Making Hi Lunch: What Mothers Should Do, When His Father Isn’t There: The Single Mother’s Journey and Men’s business: Letting it Happen. Celia had previously worked in prisons in New Zealand and had firsthand experience of what happens when things go wrong in the lives of young men and boys. Celia Lahsle has also written a book titled The Journey to Prison – Who goes and Why.

Thanks Sarah Round – Guidance Officer

From Helen the School Based Nurse

Scoliosis Detection

Each year the Spine Society of Australia, an affiliate of the Australian Orthopaedic Association, encourage Secondary Schools to communicate to Year 9 and (from this year) Year 7 girls and their families about early detection of scoliosis. Their website has a brochure to download which describes the outward signs of scoliosis with recommendations for follow up if needed.

Early detection of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis results in better outcomes for the individual and screening is considered best done between the ages of 11-13 for all girls to coincide with the onset of the adolescent growth spurt.

The focus on Year 9 girls as well as Year 7 girls is to detect those girls whose growth patterns differ or who did not have the opportunity in Year 7.

To date there is no evidence to suggest any benefit for the screening of boys or to screen for any other spinal abnormalities in either sex.

The brochure can be downloaded from the following web address and has a more thorough explanation of the purpose of screening:


Helen

School Based Youth Health Nurse

Ph: 3394 8888

Every Thursday and Friday

Green Heart Fair

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Saver Plus Scheme

Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?
Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:
- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.
You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact David Smit, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(07) 3115 6002 / 0417 436 183
or david.smit@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Lawrence and is delivered in South Australia by The Smith Family.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Buy a Bale Outback Farm Stays

Looking for a holiday with a difference this coming September / October? Try this!

As the sun sets in the west and night fall comes into focus, you become amazed at the sky above and wonder why you haven’t seen this before.

It’s as if the night is coming to life, the stars shine brighter and the night air cools, you hear animal noises you’ve never heard before and as your eyes adjust, you realise that you no longer need a torch to see as the moon lights everything in front of you.

As you look in wonder at the Milky Way, the Southern Cross and the constellations, you feel the warmth of an orange glow campfire behind you and as you turn around, there you see your family with marshmallows on sticks, hot chocolates in hand, listening to great stories being shared amongst new lifetime friends.

Where are you? You’re on a farm in outback Australia.

Farmers associated with Buy a Bale, the campaign helping drought affected communities in QLD and NSW are offering up their farms so you and your family can come and see what drought looks like and have a Farm Holiday.

Our rural towns and hundreds of farmers are doing it tough and your visit could make all the difference. You never know, you might just make some new friends.

Some farms are offering a 100% free stay, some offering a bit of manual labour in exchange for free accommodation, others run Farmstays and have great promotional nightly rates.

Buy a Bale is committed to helping farmers, their rural communities and City and Country come together, come join with us on this exciting initiative.

Regards

Charles Alder
Buy a Bale
1300 448 322

Student Exchange & Hosting

Interested in becoming a WEP Australia exchange student? Reaction to find out how?

If overseas travel is right for you, Why not me?

Request A Free Information Pack
www.wep.org.au
1300 884 763
info@wep.org.au

All you have to do to enjoy a great Aussie farm holiday is check out the properties available, their location across our great country, make your booking and pack your bags.

Throw a tent in the car with sleeping bags, grab some marshmallows and a tin of Milo and take your family out west and have a ball.

Check out the great properties available at www.underthestars.com.au

If you like the idea, please share it around as we have hundreds of nights available and you will remember this holiday experience forever.
Why not become a Host Family!! We are seeking host families to accommodate students who are here to study and enjoy the Australian High School experience. Students require to be hosted for as short as one term or up to a year. The age group ranges from 15 years up to 18 years of age. Please ring International Student Care Australia (ISCA) on (07) 3851 0704 during business hours or you can email us at isca@isca.net.au for more information! Host families are reimbursed for accommodating these students.

Date Claimers

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