Wednesday – 9th March, 2011

Week 7 - Term 1

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We had 2 exciting knockout competitions last week. The boys cricket team played Belair on Wednesday. I was able to go and watch some of our boys batting. The game was close but in the end the Belair boys won. Mr Britt, who will represent NSW in cricket later this year, was extremely pleased with the teams behaviour and ‘give it the best’ attitude. Well done boys!

Our other team was our 4 person tennis team of Layne Morgan, Britany Fitzsimmons, Jack Douglass and Thomas Douglass who played Eleebana on Friday. Mrs Dorahy was thrilled to tell me that the team had a draw in the overall score and the winners had to be decided on a countback on games. Unfortunately we lost on the countback. It was a great effort by our students who always excel in sportsmanship and behaviour. Terrific tennis!

The RTA has advised me that our school will be included in the next 124 schools to get school zone flashing lights on Myall Road. This will be a great safety initiative for our students. All students crossing this road should cross at the traffic lights for safety.

We welcome Mrs Waugh for the rest of this term on 4G as Mrs Gardiner is undergoing surgery. Mrs Waugh spent time last week with Mrs Gardiner and 4G to allow for a smooth transition. We wish Mrs Gardiner a speedy recovery.

Mrs Russell and students Josh Turnbull and Lachlan Knight (Year 8) presented an informative talk on Monday night to parents of Years 5 and 6 about Cardiff High School. We have a great High School for our students. Unfortunately we, as parents, only hear the negative side of issues. All high schools face this problem. Mrs Russell invites any parent wishing to know more about Cardiff High to make an appointment to visit her. Visit Cardiff High schools website to read their Annual School Report.

Cardiff High and its feeder schools will be sending students to a Sports Leadership Day on Friday. 6 students from Year 6 and Year 5 will join with other students to learn leadership in sport. Mrs Owens will be attending with our group. The program will continue to develop these skills in high school in the following years.

On Friday we will be hosting inservice courses for Principals in our library. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our school.

Parents are reminded NOT to park in the staff carpark to drop off and pick up their children. This is dangerous as we have taxis, buses and staff coming and going at these times. The staff car park is for STAFF ONLY. Thank you.

Keep up the home reading, I have lots of new exciting treasures to give out to readers.

Have a great week!

Jo Swadling
Principal

News from Mr Mathews
“I am getting lots of regular work at schools. Working over here really makes you appreciate G.S.P.S.”
“I just got back from Iceland, where I swam in hot springs in the snow, went snowmobiling in a blizzard and the wind tipped the mobile over! Yesterday morning I rode horses around Icelandic volcano areas which was brilliant. A truly lovely country!”
**Dates To Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>13th March</td>
<td>Dawn Lamberts Retirement Function - $30 – can be paid at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 6.30pm</td>
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<td>16th March</td>
<td>Expo Day – Cardiff High Year 6</td>
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<td>18th March</td>
<td>Show Holiday</td>
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<td>26th March</td>
<td>Election Day BBQ – Help needed – see time sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>Young Leaders Day in Sydney</td>
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<td>8th April</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1 – Easter Raffle &amp; Fun Day</td>
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**CANTEEN ROSTER - Week 8 Term 1**

- Thursday 10th March  T Clark, C Lenton
- Friday 11th March  M Lowe, T Clark
- Mon 14th March  M Jones, J Kollen
- Tues 15th March  H Jefferson, L Parker
- Wed 16th March  L Johnson, S Higgins

**LOVEDALE LONG LUNCH:**

Numbers for the bus are filling fast. If you haven’t put your name down and would like to go, please call Janine Harris on 0431 193938 to reserve your seats. Tickets are $70/head and money is required to be paid by Thursday 31st March 2011. The bus will leave from the school at 9:15am on Saturday 14th May 2011 and return at approximately 5:30pm.

**Please note BAND will be on Friday lunch with Mr Jobson from now on.**

**Please remember to pay for your child’s Book Pack ASAP. Student assistance forms can be obtained from the office.**

Last Friday 4 students, Layne Morgan, Brittany Fitzsimmons, Jack Douglass and Thomas Douglass, played tennis against Eleebana in the PSSA Knockout competition. Both schools won 4 sets but Eleebana won the most games overall and advanced to the next round. Congratulations to all 4 GSPS students who played very well.
On 4 March 2011, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) launched the My School 2.0 website (www.myschool.edu.au).

The website provides profiles on each school, including ours, and includes information about the school such as numbers of students and staff, attendance rates and results from the national literacy and numeracy tests. For the first time the website now also includes information about school finances and student gain in NAPLAN.

The website shows comparisons between our school’s NAPLAN results and those from schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds across Australia – we can see how our school is performing against other schools with statistically similar students. From this, we can see in what areas our school is doing well and where we need to look to make improvements. The website also now shows student gain information, so that we can acknowledge how our students have progressed over time. Financial information for our school is also shown, with 2009 recurrent income and capital expenditure displayed broken down by source of funding.

There is a lot of information contained on the website, and we encourage parents, carers and other interested members of the school community to view the website. If you have any questions you can go directly to the ACARA information desk (at 1300 895 563), or please contact the school.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS

It won’t be long before Easter, so we can start organising the Easter Raffle, we are asking if you could start sending in any donations for the raffle to the office please. 1 egg per child will give us 230 eggs – lots of prizes!

VOLUNTEERS are needed for the Election Day BBQ Saturday 26th March. Please complete the BBQ time sheet with a selected time and return it to the office. Money raised helps support all students at our school.

Premiers Reading Challenge Update

Currently we have 111 students registered for the Challenge for 2011. Luka Ambrose and Josie Harrison have already completed it by reading their 20 books for 2011. Well done girls!!!
Weekly Specials
7 – 12 March 2011

2kg prepack brushed potatoes …$1.69 ea
1kg prepack carrots ....79c ea
Seedless Watermelon …79c/kg whole
Local Free Range Honey ....2 for $8.50

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