

NEWSLETTER

P – Year 10 Newsletter

Term 3 Week 6

Friday 28 August 2015

**Reminder that the new Senior School phone number is: 614 23550
Junior School phone number is: 614 23555 (old phone numbers have been disconnected).**

Dates to Remember

Friday 4 September:	Senior Campus track and field carnival
Wednesday 9 September:	Kindy to year 5 Learning Journey
Thursday 10 September:	Year 6 sport expo day with cluster schools
Tuesday 15 September:	Pelicans Learning Journey
Friday 18 September:	Rosellas Learning Journey
Mon 21 Sep to Tues 22 Sep:	Wellness Week Activities
Thursday 24 September:	JC Floriade Picnic
Friday 25 September:	Last day of Term 3

Principal's Report

Dear Chisholm Families

There is much to enjoy about being in the privileged position of principal of our wonderful school. Celebrating our students' achievements and acknowledging their commitment to learning takes pride of place on our school calendar.

This week is Book Week and, as is our custom, the Junior Campus staff and students enjoyed the opportunity to dress up as a book character to celebrate our love of reading and literature.

Between thirty to forty senior campus students with a passion for writing participated in our annual Writers Workshop under the guidance of our teacher of English Ms Pippard and via skype with Eileen Chong who is a published poet. The genre is poetry and we again look forward to publishing the students' poems in the Caroline Chisholm School Literary Journal 2015. It also gives me great pleasure to make special mention of 2 Junior Campus students who have been recognised this week for their outstanding commitment to reading: Congratulations Samantha Underwood and Cerys Wells from 1H on your 200 Nights of Reading Award.

The Big Science Competition held in May this year attracted a lot of interest from our Senior Campus students and has resulted in very pleasing results. This is a rigorous international competition and I am pleased to share this scoop with you. Thirty five students participated this year and of those six were placed in the top 25-30%; three in the top 10-15% and one student has been placed in the highest rank, the top 5%. For further details I recommend Kerrie Medveczky's article to you.

The Arts is featuring strongly this term. We commenced the term with twenty pieces of students art being displayed at the ANU School of Art Gallery for the annual *Step into the Limelight* Art Exhibition. The year 5 band students were joined by Fadden and Gowrie students in an impressive combined band performance at the Junior Campus. The Senior Campus dance students are stepping up their pace in preparing for Dance Fest at The Canberra Theatre later this term. *Creative, interesting choreography, self-directed, driven and increased rehearsals* are a few of the descriptors their dance teachers are using to describe the students' commitment to a quality performance.

I congratulate all these students as they are aspirational learners possessing a strong sense of endeavour and who continue to challenge themselves to be the best they can be.

On a personal note I wish to advise you of my decision to take extended leave from the end of this term with a view to retiring. Until my final newsletter message, I wholly intend to enjoy my remaining four weeks as principal working alongside a talented staff to offer your children challenging and enriching learning opportunities.

Kind regards



Wendy Wurfel

Principal

Gold Awardees : I congratulate the following students for their tireless efforts and believe this quote from the late and great Steve Jobs sums up their endeavours: "We don't get a chance to do that many things, and everyone should be really excellent. Because this is our life."

GOLD Citizenship

Alison Piper
Ben Greig
Ben Hur Bustillo
Brooke Cosgrove
Brooke Gil
Connor McNaught
Emily McNaught
Emma Monkivitch
Jack Toal
Jaykeb Brooks-
Johnson
Jimmy Zhou
John Rees
Josephine Julian
Joshua Winnett
Malmi
Wickramanayake
Minh Le
Mitchell Rhodes
Nicholas Haster
Pimmada
Kongkerntune
Ryan Bateup
Stephanie McGuire
Thanyathorn
Thongsuk
Tiffany Ashworth
Xanthe Stone
Yilani Harrison

GOLD Academic

Alison Piper
Alyb Locus
Amelia Veal
Arya Pulickal
Sunilduth
Ben Grieg
Brett Davis
Chloe Pettifer
Claire Raine
Connor Shorten
Ida-May Peacock
Isabella Bateup
Jack Hughes
Jarrod Nichols
Jeremy Platt
Kaitlyn Harrison
Karlie Turner
Kyle Challen
Madison Cheng
Malak Hamdan
Mikayla Rose
Riley Roberts
Stephanie McGuire
Victoria Taylor
Yasin Ahmed
Zac De Pasquale

Deputy Principal's Report

Thanks to all students once again for the great feeling around the school. I have noticed through many discussions with staff that students at CCS now are not only handing more work in on time, but actually handing in drafts for teachers to check before the final tasks are handed in. This means that students get some important feedback to improve aspects of their work and are becoming more confident in their ability to complete classroom activities. I also acknowledge the vital role parents are playing in this, keeping their children focussed on important learning activities and not being distracted by matters that detract from their learning.



We have another transitions event this term – the sports expo. This year we are having separate Sport Expo's for year 6 and year 5. The transition events are opportunities for students who wish to attend CCS in year 7 2016 to meet other students and get to know a bit about the school. The transition events are always very popular with students and a good opportunity to show off the fantastic things that take place every day at CCS.

I am looking forward to the athletics carnival coming up. I am always amused at the dress sense of our students (and staff) when they get into their house spirit. The carnival is always a really fun day and a good opportunity for students and staff to have some more relaxed conversations with each other.

Kris Willis

Preschool News

The Pelicans and Rosellas have been learning about 'everyday' and 'sometimes' food. Through this learning the children have helped to brainstorm different 'everyday' and 'sometimes' food. The children looked through food magazines to cut out pictures to make a plate of food with 'everyday' and/or 'sometimes' food. They have also helped to explain why we need 'everyday' food and why 'sometimes' food is only for sometimes. Here were some of the reasons the children said we needed to eat everyday food:

- It will make you healthy and strong and make you grow big. – Allannah
- Because we need to grow big. – Shammah
- Because it's healthy for us. – Claudia
- Because it's healthy. – Zoe
- It's good for you. – James
- It makes us strong and healthy. – Ruby
- It makes us happy and fast. – Max
- It makes you strong. – Caylan
- Because it makes you healthy. – Isabell

Photo: Children selecting an item of food and placing into category of everyday or sometimes food.



Lizzie Wilson
Preschool Teacher

Year 1

Year 1-2's and ALSU's have been participating in a gross motor program each Friday. During this program, students have developed their core strength through a range of circuits and activities. Students are beginning to learn and master more challenging gymnastics skills such as handstands and cartwheels. This semester students will be participating in gross motor incursions at the high school. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of equipment such as the rings, beams, bars and other soft blocks on floor to further challenge their physical abilities. We welcome parent volunteers to support this program.

Shiri Marx

News from Year 3



Term 3 is off to a busy start and we have dived straight into learning. We have been busy using our new 'Bump it up' chart for our procedural writing. It has been fantastic to see how children can improve their writing through marking their work to a rubric and then making improvements. We have held discussions about providing constructive feedback to other students and how we might use this in our writing. The drafts are looking great at this stage and the children have really settled in well with this self-assessment tool.

Year 3 have also had fun with learning the recorder and mastering the song 'Hot Cross Buns' along with reading music, clapping to the tunes and playing in rounds. This term we have been riding the school bikes. We have been

focusing on bike safety and our balance. It's great to see and hear about the children practising outside of school as well as keeping fit and healthy!

Homework was also introduced this term with most students taking this under their wing. A friendly reminder to parents that home reading every night is essential and we would love for you to get involved in your children's learning as well!

Claire Sturgess

Term 3 in RLSU

We have had a busy start to the term. While continuing to learn our reading, writing and mathematical skills we have begun looking at the 5 senses. So far this term we have looked at sight and taste. The whole class enjoyed watching each other's pupil grow and shrink depending on the amount of light the eyes were exposed to. Students also led blindfolded peers through the classroom to experience what it was like to have no sight. Moving onto taste, all students were excited and brave at tasting sour, bitter, sweet and salty food products. Many students involuntarily pulled faces as they tasted the sour and bitter mixtures.

This term we are continuing our cooking lessons. The favourite this term has been cooking a pumpkin risotto. Many students did not like the smell of the cooking food, but once they tasted the final product it was deeply enjoyed. We will continue to walk to Chisholm shops on a Wednesday to buy our cooking ingredients as a class. After a few weeks of wet weather, we finally made the trip this week.



Students have been learning about the importance of keeping our classroom clean, and washing hands after playing outside, before handling food, and when you cough or blow your nose. We spent an afternoon wiping down the hard surfaces in the classroom with vinegar and water. While some found the smell interesting, it was a good opportunity to explain that while vinegar was something bitter to taste and used in cooking, it could also be used to clean.

We are all looking forward to what the rest of the term has in hold for us, especially with continuing to look at and exploring our senses.

Rebekah King

Hello from the 4/5 (Grevillea) Unit

Wow! We are already halfway through Term 3!

The 4/5 unit are pleased to welcome back Mr Bindley from his adventures overseas.

The Year 4's have been learning about the First Fleet in History and are now creating a journal from the perspective of a person who travelled to Australia. The Year 5's have completed oral presentations on famous early explorers in Australia.

We are looking forward to starting our Science units in Week 6. Year 4 are doing 'Beneath our Feet' and the Year 5's are doing 'Earth's Place in Space'. The next 5 weeks should be very interesting.

We enjoyed dressing in our onesies for Cerebral Palsy Awareness. The unit was filled with a vast array of weird and wonderful creatures, and we raised money for a great cause. Both students and teachers are looking forward to getting dressed up again – this time for Book Week.

Jake Bindley, Jess Crilly and Andrea Irving.

Term 3 News from Miss Brown

Year 4 – University of Canberra Research Project



**UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA**

Over the next two terms Miss Crilly and I will be working with Professor Tom Lowrie (*DipTeach BEd MEd Wollongong, PhD Newcastle*) and Ms Tracy Logan (*BEd CSU MEd QUT*) from the University of Canberra to complete a research project which investigates how students think mathematically when solving problems involving spatial reasoning. This will involve teaching students in year 4 a ten week program of lessons focused on improving their visuospatial reasoning by learning about symmetry and rotation of 2D and 3D shapes, navigation and mapping, perspective, nets of 3D shapes, paper folding and visualising 3D hidden objects.

Woolworths Earn and Learn – 3210 points so far!



Students on the Junior Campus and their families have been busy over the last 4 weeks collecting stickers which earn points for our school to buy some fantastic new tools for learning! You can keep track of our total at: <https://elmicro.teaching.com.au/school?school=106461>

We can keep collecting until 11th October so keep on shopping- our aim is to collect 15 000!
Awesome Effort so far Caroline Chisholm families!

Senior Graduation Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser



Our graduating students were overwhelmed by the support our school community showed by purchasing a sausage at their fundraiser on Tuesday. All together the students raised enough money to reduce the cost of their shirts by \$2 each. On behalf of the students I would like to thank **Fiona Green** who successfully gained donations from Bakers Delight and Coles, **Kym Brown** and **Lisa Rodgers (right)** who came and helped cook sausages on the day and the staff who supported at a school level to make this possible. The sausages were delicious and a welcome treat on a sunny day! Thank-you to our generous school community!

Year 5 students – PRIME (Primary Ignite Maths and Engineering)

Year 5 students Tahlia P, Nicole V, Ryan S and Charlotte M have been selected to participate in an enrichment program in the areas of Mathematics and Engineering on the Senior Campus. Along with students from Gilmore, Gowrie, Monash and Fadden, these students will be participating in a series of sessions to work with Phil Perkins and Joe Jennings this semester. This program is aimed at providing rich and engaging learning experiences to progress their passion and enthusiasm for Engineering and Mathematics. Congratulations to these students for accepting this challenge and representing our school.

Tournament of the Minds – Saturday 5th September

Thomas K, Meaghan H, Caitlyn H and Sara B will be representing our school at the 2015 ACT Tournament of the Minds. Tournament of Minds is a problem solving programme for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. They are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines:

- Applied Technology
- Language Literature
- Maths Engineering
- Social Sciences

Tournament of Minds is an opportunity for students with a passion for learning and problem solving to demonstrate their skills and talents in an exciting, vibrant and public way. Thank you to Miss Gorton who has been coaching the students this term - we look forward to hearing all about their experience.

Sarah-Jane Brown

Year 6 News

As part of our Science unit, 'Essential Energy', we have been learning about renewable and non-renewable forms of energy. In the pictures below, you can see us designing, constructing and then testing our windmill designs. Our challenge was to make the most efficient windmill possible, which we tested by timing how long the windmill took to wind a weight up a length of string.



MIDDLE YEARS

Spatial Reasoning in action in Mathematics (Year 4 and Year 6)

Over a period of five days, one day in Term Two and four days at the start of Term Three, some of our teachers have been attending the University of Canberra (UC) to take part in professional learning sessions. Those teachers were Ms Jessica Crilly from the Junior Campus, who will be working with Year 4 students, and Ms Poppy Gorton and Mr Phil Perkins from the Senior Campus, who will be working with our Year 6 students.



Ms Poppy Gorton at UC working on spatial reasoning skills as part of the Year 6 team.

The sessions at UC have focused on developing the teachers' understanding and awareness of spatial reasoning skills - a critical aspect of the Numeracy capability within the Australian Curriculum. During this time, the teachers and UC staff developed teaching and learning activities linked to the Geometry and Measurement strand of the curriculum that have a focus on enhancing students' spatial reasoning skills. These activities will be taught to students over the remaining weeks in Term 3 and into Term 4.



Ms Jessica Crilly at UC working on spatial reasoning skills as part of the Year 4 team.

This is an exciting opportunity for our Year 4 and 6 students as they will be the first students at the school to have access and exposure to a program that aims to address spatial reasoning skills. The students have taken part in a pre-test designed to ascertain their starting point, and in ten weeks' time it will be interesting to see how much these students have learnt through the delivery of the program.

Assignments and Tests

Term 3 has already hit the half-way mark. Students are probably feeling inundated with completing assignments and preparing for tests across all of the key learning areas. By Week 8 of this term, teachers will be using the assessment results achieved by each student to make decisions regarding Mid-Semester Reports. If any students feel as though they need some additional support, there are many options available:

- Attend Homework Club on either Monday or Wednesday afternoons;
- Speak with their teacher regarding additional help at recess, lunch, before or after school;
- Approach their Year Coordinator to discuss any further support options;
- See the faculty Executive Teacher for extra help or strategic planning;
- Talk with parents/carers to put a plan in place to complete assessment tasks.

From the above list, it can be seen that taking a proactive approach and **communicating** with the people invested in ensuring that students are able to fulfil all course requirements is the most suitable and effective approach.

Equipment “Stock Take” – A Quick Equipment Check and Conversation

At this stage of the year, some students may find that they have misplaced or lost some of the equipment that is essential for them to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available at CCS. Could parents/carers please conduct a “stock take” with their child to ensure that they at least have the following items:

- An exercise book for each subject;
- A calculator;
- A diary – preferably the school diary;
- A ruler and a protractor;
- A pencil case;
- Pens, pencils, a high-lighter;
- Eraser, glue stick, scissors, sharpener.

With these essential “tools of the trade”, students will be able to have an active part in their learning without the distraction of having to borrow these items from their peers. Organisation is an important life skill and encouraging your child's awareness of their organisational responsibilities will help them to become better organised.

We look forward to providing feedback through Mid-Semester reports and the subsequent Parent Teacher Evening.

Have a great Term Three from all of the Middle Years Team.

Regards,

Terrie McHardie, Shannon Cameron, and Phil Perkins (Middle Years Executive Teachers).
Your friendly Middle Years Team

Senior Years Report

On behalf of Shane Mitchell and Gavin McClory we would like to acknowledge the positive nature in which students have returned to CCS this semester. They have hit the ground running aiming towards good grades for their final reports.

We would like to acknowledge our fantastic senior years students and their hard work and exceptional talent with the Theatre Restaurant and production of 'The Bald Soprano'. Our Certificate 1 students in Hospitality also put on a wonderful evening of soup, canapés, cakes and coffee.

Other opportunities coming up for our students include Wellness Week, DanceFest, Big Night Out, Presentation Night and for the Year 10's, Graduation and Formal.

Just a friendly reminder about our No Device Policy for students between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm. If students are seen with their personal devices they will be asked to hand them over and they will be locked securely at the Front Office.

Similarly, students are expected to wear full school uniform at CCS and when they are on excursions representing the school. If your son/ daughter needs to update for the warmer months, the uniform shop is available in Tuesday mornings from 8.30 until 9.30am and Thursday afternoons from 2.30 until 3.30pm.

For those of you who are not aware, CCS is part of the Tuggeranong network which was given a Federal grant to establish Vocational Education in Colleges and High Schools. In order to fulfil the criteria for this funding we have already established the Certificate 1 and 2 courses in Hospitality and competencies towards Certificate 1 in Furniture Making. However, we still need to construct the course for Horticulture. Due to the timeframes in place and the workload involved in establishing the program, the school has to utilise the expertise of Michael Medveczky. Given the significant demands involved, the responsibilities of Year 10 Co-ordinator have been graciously accepted by Livia Tigwell. Livia brings a vast knowledge of College transitions and course selections that will place our students in the best place for success into 2016. We would like to thank Michael Medveczky for his tireless work with this fantastic group of students.

In regard to Year 10 and the end of year celebrations, can you please make sure that payments for the formal are met by the deadlines. If you are having difficulties or have questions please don't hesitate to contact the Front Office.

Warm regards,

Shane Mitchell and Gavin McClory

Senior Years Executives

Mathematics Faculty News

Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC)

Last year, forty-seven students from the Senior Campus of Caroline Chisholm School took part in the Australian Mathematics Competition. This was a high rate of participation, but we did not manage to get fifty students in order to qualify for a Prudence Award. This year, we had fifty-nine students, so one of our students will be eligible to receive the Prudence Award, which is awarded to the student who gets the most questions correct in-a-row from question one.



The number of students per year group who took part was as follows:

Year 6	A very impressive 9 students
Year 7	Another 9 students
Year 8	Only 7 students!
Year 9	13 hardy students
Year 10A	very impressive 21 students

All of these students will receive a Certificate of Participation, or they could receive a certificate of Proficiency, or Credit, or Distinction depending on their results.

The results will not be known until Term Four, but these will be shared with our community through the newsletter as soon as they are available. Students involved in the School's Ignite Mathematics Program were expected to participate and Challenge students were strongly encouraged to enter also. This does not mean that students from other ability levels should not enter as the competition is open to all students.

Participating in such events improves a student's ability to think laterally, as well as honing their test techniques, strategies and skills – an important asset and requirement for college exams in the future. Applying their "mental energy" to the competition paper for seventy-five minutes (sixty minutes for the Year Six students) was mentally draining. Despite the sophistication of the questions and the level of complexity required to solve some of the harder problems, the academic resilience in the room was evident through the number of students who battled to the very end to complete as much as they could of their test.

Congratulations to all of those students who took part.
The Friendly Mathematics Faculty

Big Science Competition Results

The Big Science Competition was held in May this year, with a total of 47 000 students taking part. The competition challenges students to think critically and solve scientific problems using everyday examples. The questions are aligned to the Australian Curriculum – Science. Certificates are awarded as follows: High Distinction (approx. 5%), Distinction (approx. 10 – 15 %), Credit (approx. 25 – 30%), Participation (remaining students).

We were thrilled with a high level of participation, with the following CCS students achieving some great results:

Credit: Connor McN, Brooke H, Suzy K, Alyb L, Jesse P, Jon R
Distinction: Connor M, Riley R, Matthew T
High Distinction: Brodie R-Y

Congratulations to all students who took part!!

Engineering Games 2015



On the evening of August 7th a wintry corner of the Australian National University was warmed by the arrival of several CCS students from Years 9 and 10. They had visited to compete in the 2015 Engineering Games; an event organised by Engineers Australia, Qwestacon and the ANU.

The evening gave the students an opportunity to showcase their practical scientific skills. They were expected to construct one of six devices in preparation for the event, during which the constructions were tested in competition against other entrants in their age group. Competitors were allowed the opportunity to build a spaghetti bridge, a geodesic dome, a mousetrap racer, a balloon hovercraft, a robotically-controlled race car or an alarm clock.

Over 1000 Canberrans fought for the chance to win on a night when devices constructed by five-year-olds sat alongside entries from professional engineers. Impressively, all of the entrants from Caroline Chisholm School were competitive in their categories. The students were all remarkable in the manner in which they demonstrated a capacity to engage with tasks adapted from university-level projects.

Congratulations are due to the following students who represented their school with such aplomb:

- Emily (Year 10)
- Malmi (Year 10)
- Jake (Year 10)
- Matthew (Year 10)
- Suzy (Year 9)
- Nathan (Year 9)

All of these students devoted significant amounts of their own time, including lunches and recess, in order to develop their skills in design and construction. Furthermore, their conduct on the night was exemplary and demonstrated a

commendable level of maturity. The Science faculty would also like to thank the parents of the students who supported the students in a number of ways, not least of all by taking them to and from the competition on a frosty Friday night.

Wellbeing Update

Only a short update this week....

House point update

We have had a big change up on the leadership table! Students were pleasantly surprised and cheered on their houses as they listened to the update during assembly in Week 6. Students have working hard towards collecting House Points in the 3 areas of Participation, Citizenship and Academic. Congratulations to all those students who have been working hard throughout the year to earn both individual and house points!

The overall total will determine which House receives the House Cup. As of Week 6, Term 3 the tally stands at:

Cooinda	Karingal	Mullaya	Jumbunna
13076	12335	14020	13565

National Awareness Events



WEAR IT PURPLE

WE WILL BE WEARING IT PURPLE ON AUGUST 28 TO SUPPORT RAINBOW YOUNG PEOPLE

You have the right to be PROUD of who you are!



Mark your diaries 10 September

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY + RUOK?™ A conversation could change a life.

1. Ask R U OK? 2. Listen without judgement 3. Encourage action 4. Follow up

New Unit Website and Blog

The new Unit website is now live and ready for you to access!

It can be found at:

www.sites.google.com/a/ed.act.edu.au/ccsunit/



This website provides up-to-date information to parents and other members of the CCS Community about the programs we run and how we support our students' learning.

Don't forget to check out the *Upcoming Events* page on the site, which contains information about all excursions and events being run through The Unit.

And... If you want to keep up with what's been happening both inside and out of the classroom then subscribe to our **BLOG**.

www.ccsunit.blogspot.com



Caroline Chisholm School 2015 Fete Friday 30 October 2015

Our Fete is on the 30th October 2015 and our teachers are looking for donations for the school fete stalls. They need books, plants or pots for plants. These items can be left at the senior campus please.

In the next few days we will be sending out a volunteer roster note asking for parent/carer volunteers to choose times and places as to where they would like to help with the fete. Please return this note to either front office.

The next fete meeting will be on the 9th September 2015 at 6pm on the Junior Campus.

Any queries please contact Lynda Cheng on 0430355473.

Fete Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday 9 September 2015 @ 6.30 – Jnr Campus

Wednesday 23 September 2015 @ 6.30 – Jnr Campus

Father's Day Stall



The Junior Campus is running a Father's Day stall on **Thursday the 3rd of September**. The children will need to bring \$2 on the day to purchase a gift. More than 1 gift can be purchased if needed for an additional \$2.

To stock the stall with lots of options for your child to choose from, we are asking all children to supply a gift or \$5 and a gift will be purchased for you. This gift may not be the gift your child chooses. The gift should be about \$5 in value and should be something you would be happy to receive.

Please supply your gift or \$5 to the front office by the **1st of September**.

Please also note that we will need parent helpers on the 3rd of September to run the stall in the morning.

Careers Announcements From Mrs Tigwell

UNI, CIT & ADFA Open Day Saturday 29th AUGUST

This is the once-a-year chance to visit the CIT and local universities, see the facilities and talk with students currently studying the courses. All websites have details of the tour and special presentation times. Potential students are strongly advised to see more than one campus to explore options.

Supporting your child through school

There are some great resources for parents on the "Human Connections" website. Select the "Resources and Freebies" link.

COLLEGE 2016

Erindale and Lake Tuggeranong Colleges both offer Year 10 students the chance to experience college this year before commencing Year 11 in 2016. The two options available are "tasters" variety and highly recommended for anyone with concerns about college. Participants will be there to experience college first hand and ask questions from staff.

College for a Day is an opportunity to attend the classes selected for Year 11 on a normal college day with the current college students in those classes. This is brilliant for students who want to try out the level of Maths they've selected or check out the facilities in their chosen elective areas. It is also good for motivated students who are not sure about the classes they've chosen.

T10 is a day long program focusing on smoothing the transition of anxious Year 10 students to college. A range of activities are offered to the participants from feeder high schools to introduce students to key members of staff and college facilities.

Paperwork for both programs is available from me.

Australian School Based Apprenticeships are popular as a means of making schooling relevant to the workplace. Students aged over 15 are able to commence an apprenticeship or traineeship while still at school. There are substantial financial incentives for host employers, so let me know if your workplace would consider taking an enthusiastic Caroline Chisholm student and I can provide details.

Thinking about work

Great resource for anyone attending an interview

In your web browser search bar enter “Alex’s insights nine questions to ask in a job interview”. This is really useful, as I’ve not see a resource anywhere else that assists with what you could ask the panel in an interview. Definitely a “keeper”.

Resumes

I am happy to assist both students and family members with cover letters and resumes, and have templates to share with you to make it easier. Please contact me if you would like me to provide these resources.



It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true.

The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be absent.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-caused.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-caused absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school life of a child.

In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday, being absent because they stayed up too late watching television, going shopping for clothes, an extended long weekend, and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.



Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10:00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go to school today because Party is coming to visit".

Nice try. But the answer should be "No".

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn-up each day work ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

parenting.deas.com.au | parenting.deas.co.uk | parenting.deas.co.nz
Michael Grose Presentations
PO Box 107 Melbourne, VIC 3002, p: +61 3 9483 7963 f: 0800 69 69 69 e: info@parenting.deas.com.au
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TUGGERANONG VALLEY CRICKET CLUB JUNIORS GALA AND REGISTRATION DAY FOR THE 2015/16 SEASON

at the TVCC Clubhouse Chisholm (Behind the Chisholm shops) on Sunday 30 August from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

There will be fun activities, cricket coaching sessions will be conducted by senior players, and a barbecue will be running.

TVCC conducts In2Cricket (Have-A-Go) for 5-8 year olds at Chisholm and Conder, have T20 Blast for 8-12 year olds and Juniors field teams from Under 10s to Under 18s, and have a girls team.

The In2Cricket registration fee is \$115.00, T20 Blast \$160 and Juniors single fee is \$160.00, which includes a club playing shirt. For more information contact TVCC Juniors Registrar Trish Coughlan on 62319527 (AH), Vice-President Bruce Trewartha on 62310281 or go to the website – www.tvccjuniors.org.au.



Winners of Thunder Local Hero Program BBL|04 with Aiden Blizzard

Schools to adopt Sydney Thunder Local Heroes for BBL|05

12 August 2015

School children across the Thunder region will again have the chance to get closer than ever to their favourite

Sydney Thunder players as part of the Thunder Local Hero Program.

Sydney Thunder Local Hero Program gives schools the opportunity to adopt a Sydney Thunder player for the summer and be part of the Thunder Nation for BBL|05 starting in Term 4.

Thunder Local Hero is open to primary schools across NSW and the ACT. It is a free initiative.

The Local Hero Program aims to engage school children in Stages 3 and 4.

Primary and secondary schools can register for the program, which has allowed 40,000 students to directly talk to their Local Hero through email, Skype and letters.

Captain Michael Hussey, along with Shane Watson, Usman Khawaja, Gurinder Sandhu, Pat Cummins, Aiden Blizzard and their Sydney Thunder team-mates will be adopted by schools as part of the program.

Sydney Thunder's star batsman Aiden Blizzard this week visited the BBL|04 winners of the Local Hero Program, Burrabadine Christian School, and said the program provides a great opportunity for the players to give back to the club's youngest supporters.

"Giving back to the community is something I'm very passionate about," said Blizzard.

"I grew up in the country so the access I had to elite-level cricketers was quite minimal, so to be able to go out there and see these kids, I can just imagine if I was in their shoes it would've made my day."

The big-hitting Thunder batsman says the Local Hero Program provides a humbling experience for his team.

"Getting to grassroots and getting out to the community is something I've really enjoyed in the past and something that blew me away going to the primary school this week," said Blizzard

For details on the program head to sydneythunder.com.au/localhero.

