

NEWSLETTER

Friday 10 September 2021 - Term 3 Week 9

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

My sincere thanks to families for the support and feedback we have received over the past three weeks while students have been learning from home. We have greatly appreciated the partnership to ensure that all students can access learning and resources as needed. Student wellbeing has been high on our priority and all staff have been connecting through live Meets, email and phone with students and families. I encourage you to reach out if your young person needs support, there are many ways we can assist them through the virtual space.



My sincere thanks to our P&C for their incredible efforts to coordinate the Father's Day stall in the virtual world. In an already busy and complex time, their energy to continue to support our great school is amazing. My thanks also to all of the community for the support of this event, we really do appreciate your support!

#stayconnectedccs

Across the last few weeks it has been wonderful to see so many students and families participate in the additional challenges we have set. This has included the Book Week Virtual Parade, CCS Cooking Challenge, Nicky's Nature Challenge and the At Home Family Track & Field this week. These events are designed to encourage families to stay connected and as much as possible, have some fun and enjoy the outdoors. Participation is completely voluntary, we know how busy you are! There will be continued opportunities into next week for families who would like to be involved.

Interim Reports for SC

In term 3, our SC students would typically receive a progress report in week 9. This progress report will be provided to all families in week 2 of term 4. The delay has come due to waiting for advice regarding the learning modes for the remainder of term 3. These reports will be emailed out to all families on Friday 15 October. While we will not have the usual parent/teacher interview night to discuss the progress report, families are welcome to reach out and touch base with teachers if they would like to discuss the reports further by phone.

Assessment and Reporting Semester Two

Term four is a formal reporting term and teachers are currently busy preparing to write reports for semester two. Reports will be emailed home in week nine of this term. So how do we gather information for student reports? At CCS we have a detailed assessment schedule with targeted assessment tools that capture our students' skills and understandings. While assessment data is a snapshot of what a young

person can do at that time it is also used to identify interventions and approaches, and to determine goals for further teaching and learning. Our assessment tools utilise individual assessment tasks, 1:1 interviews or tasks, rich assessment tasks and group learning experiences. We use conversations, observations and products to ensure we have a clear picture of our students' achievements. Moderation occurs across and beyond year levels using the common formative assessment tasks as the basis for discussion. Planned sessions allow teachers to see how students have progressed in line with the Australian Curriculum. While this assessment is captured in a semester two report this term, our educators are constantly considering the next steps in the teaching and learning cycle.

While students are learning at home, there are adjustments being made on a daily basis as to the ways in which teachers are assessing student learning. We have been advised that reporting will continue in semester two as it would regularly occur.

While all learning tasks do contribute to a teacher's understanding of a child's learning needs, some will be used for moderation of all students in the same grade. We appreciate that the expectation is that students do not need to engage in all tasks while learning at home due to multiple priorities for families, where possible we do encourage those tasks which are part of the moderation processes to be a focus. For our JC students, our teachers are actively marking learning materials in the Google Classrooms which will be used for assessment purposes.

For our SC students, it is important that students engage with the assignments and common formative assessments. These allow us to ensure grade allocation accurately captures student growth and abilities.

Teacher's Aide Appreciation Day

Last week we celebrated the annual Teacher's Aide Appreciation Day; we call these amazing staff educators or LSAs. We are so fortunate to have over 30 educators who support our students every day. In many cases they are providing support one to one for students or through small group support to ensure that all students can access the learning. Their efforts ensure our students continue to grow and thrive and I am incredibly grateful for their commitment at CCS. If your young person accesses this additional support, I encourage you to take a moment and email them to acknowledge their contributions.

Update for Term 4

Chief Minister Barr announced on Tuesday 31 August that the lockdown in the ACT would continue through until midnight Friday 17 September, pending further health advice. In relation to what school will look like in term 4, we are waiting on advice from ACT Health. This advice will come during the school holidays, by Friday 24 September at the latest. We will communicate all key information about school next term as soon as it becomes available and look forward to continuing to support the community throughout the remainder of the year.

End of year events

We continue to receive advice regularly from ACT Health and ACT Education in regards to the current pandemic and the restrictions in place. We are waiting on the advice during the school holidays in relation to key end of year events including the Year 10 Formal and the Year 6 and 10 Graduations. We will update you as soon as we have this information and thank you in advance for your patience.

Supporting your child's reading development at home

Over the past week we have had a number of requests from families about ways in which they can support their child's reading development at home. The following may assist to guide you at home:

- find a place to sit that suits you both
- try to read for at least 5 to 10 minutes a day (read with, read to your child, or have your child read to you)
- make time to talk about the book after you have read it

- start with the title, look at the cover and briefly predict what the book might be about
- ask leading questions such as 'what happened in the book?', 'does this remind you of anything in your lives or anything you have read before?'
- encourage your child to retell the story to you
- if your child misreads a word without changing the meaning (i.e. mother instead of mum), accept it
- if your child becomes stuck on a word you can help them by:
 - pointing to the picture if it is relevant
 - asking a question to remind them of the context
 - re-reading the sentence up to the unknown word
 - saying or pointing to the first letter of the word
 - telling your child the word to avoid losing momentum
 - if the word can be read easily by sounding out the letters or digraphs (blends), encourage them to do this.

I hope you have a safe and restful break. Thank you for your ongoing support

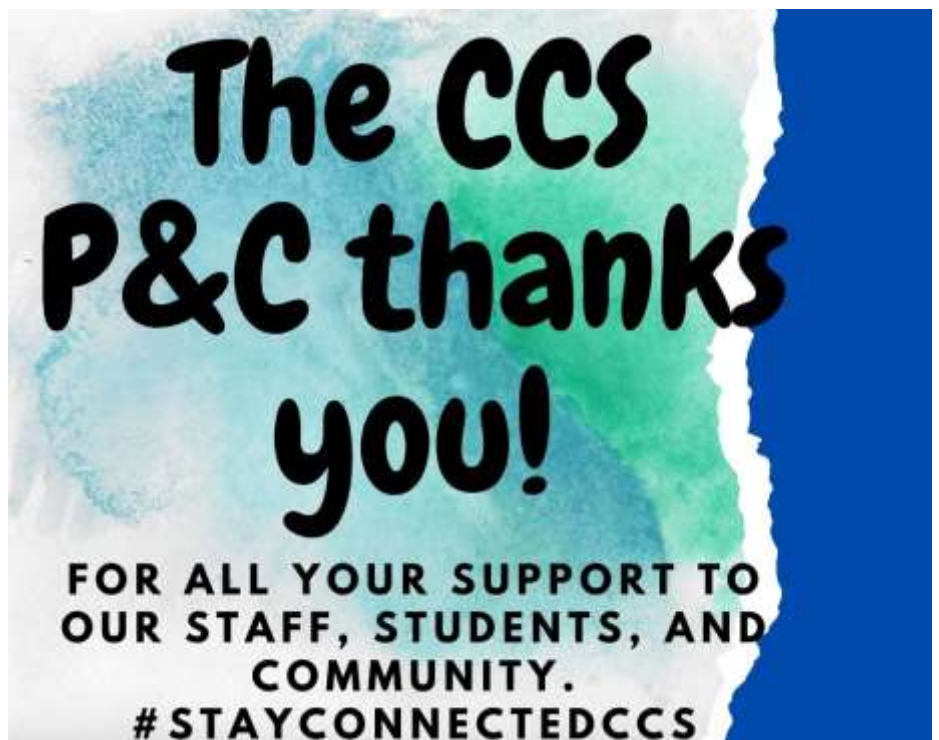
Jen

P&C NEWS

Hi CCS Community,

Another week of Home Learning down, and congratulations to all of our parents and carers for getting here. One more week of school! We'd like to thank the staff at CCS for all their hard work in preparing online classes, hard copy packs, learning new skills and being all around great to our young people.

Thank you to those families who supported our Father's Day fundraiser, I'm so pleased that so many Dads and Father figures got to have a gift from you! Even if it wasn't the same as usual.



Next week we will have a Fete meeting via zoom, all are welcome to attend. Please get in touch with the P&C Committee for a link. We will be deciding whether or not to postpone the fete. At this stage, the fete is 9 weeks away, but with current restrictions it would be impossible to hold the fete. Unfortunately, it is a guessing game, if you have any insight, or strong opinions either way, we'd love to hear them.

It's always hard to know exactly what to say, we all struggle from time to time and the right thing for some wouldn't be the right for others. Yesterday was R U OK? Day. Please know that the P&C Committee is here for our school community, we exist only to improve our school community for our young people. As much as we want the lines of communication between you and us, we also encourage you to ask your young

people, are they ok? You might get a shrug, a "Fine", a "Yeah", but the conversation isn't worthless, it's cementing the idea that it's ok to talk about how we are feeling. That's important for all of us.

Until next term,

The P&C Committee.

COMMUNITY NEWS

OSHC Enrolments

Rollover (Re-Enrolment): 27 Sept to 4 Oct 2021
New Enrolments Open 19 October



commsatwork.org/oshc-enrolments

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