



Term 1 Week 1

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school and welcome to our many new families who join us in 2010. We trust that you will feel warmly welcomed into our community and quickly feel at home at Cedars.

Some of our families may not be aware but in the early days of Cedars we were known as Wollongong Christian Community School. That concept of 'community' has remained in our Mission statement and is one of our key values. What does it mean to be part of a community? Most of us would think of the concepts of belonging, feeling valued, being supported and being able to make a contribution. The staff and I hope that in 2010 all our families - both old and new - will feel a strong sense of belonging, that you and your children are valued, that in difficult times you will feel supported and that you will feel welcomed to make a contribution to the College - whatever that might be.

As a Christian community we share in the knowledge and love of God who is the foundation of our community and gives us guidance through His word. Our community welcomes families from a wide range of Christian churches in the Illawarra and also includes families who may not be part of a set church group. Our mission, vision and values all reinforce our strong commitment to Christ and the importance of unity in our faith. We trust that every family in our community would know and experience the joy and peace of a relationship with Christ.

Over the next few weeks in the newsletter we will take some time to consider the different aspects of our mission, vision and values.

We pray that 2010 will be a wonderfully fulfilling and rewarding year for each of our students, families and staff here at Cedars.



Parent Participation Scheme Opportunities

PPS

Thank you to all the families who participated last year in our PPS Scheme which is intended to bring our families together while working to help in a variety of ways for our College Community.

Swimming Carnivals

We are currently looking for a team of parents to assist with both the Primary and Secondary Swimming Carnivals this week and next. If you are able to attend and don't mind time keeping or filling other roles on the day for any length of time please call Sandra at reception on 42 71 8124.

Wednesday January 27, 2010



Upcoming Events

Thursday 28th January

First day of School Kindergarten 10.00am

Friday 29th January

Secondary Swim Carnival parents drop off 8.30am Unanderra Pool, pick up 2.30pm (See article attached)

Monday 1st February

First day of Prep

Wednesday 3rd February

- Primary Swim Carnival Unanderra Pool start 9.00am finish 1.00pm
- U of W Discovery Day Yr 12 depart 8.15 am from School, return 3.15pm
- Years 9-11 Parent Info Evening 7.00pm Middle School

Thursday 4th February

Whole School Assembly - 9.30am on basketball court - parents welcome

Mon 8th Feb - Fri 12th Feb

Week of Junior School Parent Information Evenings

Monday 15th February

Prep Information Evening 6.00pm Prep Room

Wednesday 17th February

Yr 12 Parent Only Info Evening 6.30pm - 8.00pm Middle School

Thursday 18th Feb to Fri 19th Feb

Year 5 Camp

Tuesday 23rd February

- Twilight Supper for all staff students and families.
- P&F AGM following Twilight Supper



Prayer Points

We want to praise God for:

- The wonderful break we have just enjoyed.
- The new staff and students that have joined our College community this year.
- The success of our 2009 school year.

Bible Verse for the Week

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.

Luke 10:27

We also want to pray for:

- The new Kindergarten students, as they prepare for their first big day tomorrow.
- Great weather for our upcoming swimming carnivals.
- All of our new students, that they would feel welcome and at home at Cedars.



Canteen Roster

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|---------------|-----------------|
| Mon 1st Feb | Amanda Bexim |
| Tues 2nd Feb | Megan Mireylees |
| Wed 3rd Feb | Leonie Bere |
| Thurs 4th Feb | Lisa Powers |
| Fri 5th Feb | Terina White |

For more information please phone Narelle on 0418 685 802.

Building Begins

It is very exciting to begin 2010 with our new building project well underway. Under the auspices of our architect Shorten and Hodges we welcome our building company Braeco. We are very grateful for the speedy and professional manner in which our building company has begun our work. Plans had been underway to organise timetables to accommodate classes with no demountables available for a Term but we are very grateful that the majority of classrooms will be in full working order three days into our first Term. We are also excited by their plans to complete all work by mid year - this brings the reality of our hall much closer than expected.

Pick up, Parking and Safety

Parents might be surprised to know that many schools have much less parking facilities than we do and that greater distances are walked in the very pick up times. Having said this I do understand that the challenges of parking and walking can be significant especially in wet weather. Our new building site does not change things markedly but the move of the demountables has changed one option for 'peak hour' parking. To help us to ensure that our children's safety is paramount here are a few timely reminders:

- Parking in legal area and walking to school to pick up little ones is always the best option – the fitness benefits are also valuable – especially if there is a hill involved.
- The kiss and drop areas is not suitable for parked cars – if your child is not waiting for you at the gate please drive around the block and come back to allow other parents to do a safe and speedy pick up.
- It is illegal to park in Rickard Road. Parents could face hefty fines if they park there and walk through the back gate. Our neighbours remind us that people who do park there make the street very unsafe for pedestrians and put local families and our own children at risk.
- Parents must never park in the bus zone areas – this is obviously a safety hazard and again can be greeted with a fine.

It is unsafe to turn into the nursing home driveway and do a U-Turn – on a number of occasions parents choosing this action have compromised their own safety and the safety of others.

We urge parents to travel, park and pick up in a respectful and friendly manner and to observe the safety warnings at all times. The way in which we drive and park is as much an education to our children as their time in class. Let's model the best behaviour we can.

Staff Changes

At the beginning of any year there are always some staff changes to announce. In 2010 Miss Heidi Sullivan will be taking on the role of Junior School Welfare Coordinator for the year. Mrs Clifford will return to the role in 2011. We farewell Miss Brooke Marshall from two days of Prep assistant role. We welcome Mrs Janette Lateo to the Prep assistant role.

We also welcome Mrs Leanne Walton to a new role at Cedars – as part time Band Leader. Leanne will be working with students, teachers and parents to build interest and skills in music at an earlier age and build towards having bands and ensembles in the school – initially starting with Junior School and working up to the higher years. Mrs Rachel Blaas will have a new part time role assisting with curriculum matters in Junior School. We also welcome back Mrs Vanessa Wynn and Mrs Corinne Sullivan from maternity leave in part time roles in Junior School.

Jackie Bennett has begun her maternity leave and we welcome Mrs Robyn Rodwell to take on Year 3-4.

We are excited to have Mr Ben Carden, Mr Carm Fedele and Mrs Alana Bartlett in new capacities. Last year we farewell Mrs Jo Knight, Mr Graham Fitzpatrick and Mr Brian Horan and we thank them all for their many years of faithful service to our school community. We were also grateful to have Mrs Rachel Deck with us and wish her all the best for her pregnancy.

Parents and Friends

2010 will be a big year for our parent association. We have so many exciting opportunities with our new hall coming on line midyear. Over the last few years we have had a very loyal and hard working P&F group but I believe it is time to extend it even further. I urge as many parents as possible to consider attending our meetings. It is a great way to meet other parents, contribute to the building of the College and feel that sense of community which we value so much. Our first meeting will be our AGM immediately after our Twilight Supper on 23rd February. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the P&F please fill in a form available from the main reception. You can also email secretary@cedars.nsw.edu.au for a form. All nominations need to be received one week before the AGM. If you are unsure about what is involved please look out in the newsletter for more information or email or phone Sandra at Reception.

As is usual our year begins with much activity with our Secondary and Primary swimming carnivals. All parents are warmly welcomed to join us at Unanderra pool – there are often time keeping jobs and other ways to assist – or you may choose to chat to other families and cheer the swimmers on. I look forward to seeing you there or at our first whole School assembly next week.

Julie Reynolds
Principal

Secondary Swim Carnival

Senior College Swimming Carnival is on this Friday, 29th February at Unanderra Pool.

All Buses run by Dions and Premier will run via Unanderra Pool and will drop students off in the morning only; buses will run as normal Friday afternoon. Students not on buses are to be dropped off by parents at the pool at 8:30am. All students are to be picked up by parents at 2:30pm. No student will be given permission to leave before 2:30pm. Any student who is still at the pool at 2:45pm will be walked back to school for buses. No student will be left at the pool so parents picking up students need to be there before 2:45pm.

Any parents who would like to assist on the day are welcomed and this can count towards PPS hours. Students are to participate in at least 2 events and will need to wear school uniform or their house colours.

Girls must be in one piece costumes. Bonus points will be awarded to students who support their team with creativity and energy.

Mr Tim Johnson
PDHPE Teacher

Term Dates - 2010

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Term 1 (10 weeks) | Year 1 – 12 Commences | Wednesday 27 th January |
| | Kindy Commences | Thursday 28 th January |
| | Prep Commences | Monday 1 st February |
| | School Finishes | Thursday 1 st April |

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| Term 2 (11 weeks) | School Commences | Monday 19 th April |
| | School Finishes | Friday 2 nd July |

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| Term 3 (9 weeks) | School Commences | Monday 26 th July |
| | School Finishes | Friday 24 th September |

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| Term 4 (9 weeks) | School Commences | Monday 11th October |
| | School Finishes | Wednesday 8th December |

Cedars Celebration DVD's and 2010 Calendars

Families who have ordered DVD's of the 2009 Cedars Celebration and have not yet picked them up from the office can do so at any time. Please drop in and see Sandra at reception to pick up and or pay for your copy of the Middle School/Senior College DVD and or Junior School Celebration DVD. If you did not have a chance to order your copy, we have a few extra for sale.

Also, if you did not receive your family Cedars calendar for 2010, please come in to the office and pick up your calendar which is a gift from the College.

School Uniforms

Thank you to all the families who have patiently gone through the process of ordering and picking up uniforms for your children. We continue to explore ways of making this an easier process so if you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to call Sandra on reception.

Our uniforms are ordered and distributed through a local company located in Oak Flats. Although they have tried to make this a smooth process, at times there have been some delays on stock; we apologise if you have been inconvenienced in any way.

Following are details of trading hours for the uniform shop.

Trading Hours:

Tuesdays: 8.00am - 4.30pm
Thursdays: 1.00pm - 4.30pm
1st Sat of Month: 9.00am - noon

Additional Trading Days

February 2010

- 1st, 2nd & 4th February - 8:00am to 4:30pm
- Saturday the 6th February - 9:00am to 12:00pm

To make an appointment call Marilyn Emerson on 4256 4963.

Address: Corpus Christi and Cedars Christian College Uniform Shop
Unit 6/ 17-19 Industrial Road

School Blazers/Jumpers for Sale

Several families of our Year 12 students are interested in selling their School blazers and School jumpers.

Items are being kept at the main office so that they can be tried for size and can be purchased at the price set by the owners. Please call Sandra Skinner if you would like more information on 4271 8124.

Signing Students Out Procedure

If for some reason you need to take your child/children out of School early, please go to the office and sign your child/children out at the front desk either in Middle School/Senior College, or at Junior School; thank you.

Visitors

Any parent or other visitor to the School will need to go to the front office to receive a Visitor's badge which needs to be worn while on the School premises. This helps to keep everyone aware of who has been given permission to be on the School grounds.