STOP PRESS

CGHS has been invited to the Expanding Horizons Student Exchange Tour of China in September. 300 students from the Region will be on this tour for 10 days. We have been selected to take a Dance ensemble and a Wind ensemble as part of the tour. If you would like your daughter to have this unique opportunity to tour and perform in China, please contact Sue Holden, Principal or Sylvia Kovanis, Tour Convener, on 9718 1805.

Congratulations to:
- The many Year 12, 2011 students who returned on Academic Recognition Day to celebrate with us their achievements. 2011 School Captain, Chloe Smith, spoke eloquently regarding surviving being a teenager and the HSC. 56% of the class of 2011 have taken up University placements in a huge range of courses. We look forward to following the careers of many of them!
  - Scout Eastment, Year 10 student selected in the NSW Performing Arts Unit Choir.
  - Jamile Kibby, Year 8 selected in the NSW Performing Arts Unit Junior Drama Ensemble.
  - 2012 Age Swimming Champions:
    - 12yrs - Anna Vo
    - 13yrs - Jenny Nguyen
    - 14yrs - Ellie Cott
    - 15yrs - Vicky Nguyen
    - 16yrs - Tara Brett
    - 17yrs + - Lulu Lucas
  - Zone Swimming finalists who will swim at the Regional Swimming Carnival: Bao Nguyen, Year 7 and Jenny Nguyen, Year 8.
  - Alice poster designer Lucy Lee, Year 9 – Winner, Yasmin Atwani, Year 8 was Runner up and part of Yasmin’s design was incorporated into the final version.
  - Students selected in the 2012 Debating teams:
    - Year 7 Speakers: Ivy Nehl, Portia McMullin, Tilly Goslett; Team

Above: 2012 High Achievers Assembly.
News from Student Welfare

Welcome to Ms Matos as Year 11 Year Adviser, replacing Ms Strachan while she is on leave.

WOW is coming – Week 2 of Term 2

This year the Day of Well Being will be upgraded to a Week of Well Being. Over the course of week 2 in Term 2, all Years will participate in a range of well being activities. On Wednesday a special guest speaker Avril Henry will join us for a whole school assembly – she has already been seen in action by our Prefects who absolutely loved her messages about resilience, leadership and making the most of life. All students will also see the Motivational Media multimedia presentation on the big screen. This year’s theme is “RISK – it’s a small word with a lot of power, because the moment we disrespect it could be our last” and includes music by Mahala, Foo Fighters, Lifehouse and Birds of Tokyo (to name a few).

In keeping with the idea of well being involving physical, emotional and social good health and happiness, this year we are incorporating a session of Zumba for all students (and staff!!). Elevate Education will continue to deliver a study skills session to each Year, and performances from Young Australia’s Bamboo Theatre will also be attended by each Year group – Years 7 & 8 “The Pack” (about being an individual), Years 9 & 10 “Crisis of a Female Kind” (about self-respect) and for Years 11 & 12 “Proud 2B Me” (about acceptance). A new addition to Well Being Week in 2012 will be workshops for all Years from the Australian Federal Police youth liaison officers on the themes of cyberbullying and cyber safety – a constant concern in the digital age of social media and networking.

Letters will be sent home to all families before the end of term 1 – $25 per student will then be payable to Office C (and permission notes returned to Year Advisers).

Premier’s Student Volunteering Program

Ms Tyral in her role as Learning Centre Coordinator, delivering senior student support, has been instrumental in pulling together this year’s Week of Well Being program – thank you Ms Tyral. We also welcome you to the role of Premier’s Student Volunteering Program Coordinator, taking over from Ms Kadri who has successfully established this important community service and citizenship program in our school over the past two years. Years 9 and 10 – this is a program for you, so listen out for announcements and a DEAR meeting outlining the program very soon.

Vaccinations – Years 7 and 10

MARCH 29 – MAY 31 – NOVEMBER 8

These are the 3 dates the NSW Health nurses will be in the school to offer HPV (cervical cancer), Hepatitis B and 3-in-1 dTpa (whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria) to all Year 7 students. Year 10 can get a booster dTpa at the May 31 visit. Varicella (chicken pox) booster will also be given to Year 7 on the final visit.

Permission notes for all vaccinations will arrive home in the week beginning March 19. Go to the NSW Health website for more information:


I know some students find the idea of getting a needle at a school a bit daunting, however the nurses are VERY experienced and KIND. We will look after all of you and get it done as quickly as possible. It really doesn’t hurt. I had a flu vaccine and a whooping cough booster at the doctor’s yesterday (one in each arm) – I hardly felt either of them.

Be brave and support each other to manage these days without tears. If you talk about being scared about it too much beforehand, you just make everyone else worried too. Talk to your families or come and see me if you feel nervous about it so we can support you.

Zonta International Women’s Day Breakfast

Big congratulations to Lulu Lucas (our Zonta Club awardee), Jade Lo (SRC) and Annie Edwards and Cherry Saballa (Prefects), who represented us at the annual IWD breakfast. It was the day of the big wet, March 8, yet parents still bravely ventured out to transport their daughters there. Thank you. The girls proved themselves to be independent and resourceful, participating enthusiastically in the surveys (narrowly defeated by Strathfield Girls who won all the raffle prizes) and braved the return journey with only a broken umbrella for shelter in and out of the cab. They were entertained and informed at the breakfast by a guest speaker who told the story of Gemma Sisia, who opened a school in Northern Tanzania in 2002, growing over 10 years from an enrolment of 3, to 1,500 in 2012.

By the time you read this, our own International Women’s Day assembly will have occurred at school – the result of the combined efforts of SRC and Prefect bodies lead ably by their coordinators Ms Kovanas and Ms Salakas.

Year Camps

Year 8 have returned safely from Mowbray Park, again surviving the big wet but still able to participate in whip cracking and horse riding according to our local update. Look out for photos and reports next newsletter. Next week Year 7 are off to Milson’s Island and Year 9 to Canberra. Year 10 and 11 Camps occur later in the year. The Year Advisers and accompanying teachers put in a great effort to make the Year camps happen – many thanks to all who take on this task, and to the students attending for their support and cooperation. Camps are a wonderful social experience for each cohort and allow group outdoor activities and a change in the usual social dynamics.

Families please note, non-campers have a full program of lessons at school; normal attendance is expected.

Mentoring

Finally a big thank you to all students in Years 9 and 10 who did such wonderful work in welcoming Year 7 through the four mentoring workshops over weeks 1-5 this term. Each student mentor received a certificate acknowledging their efforts, and their contribution is recorded for progress to their Recognition Badges.

Mentor Training Days for Years 8 and 9 will be offered in Terms 3 and 4, for students interested in this important leadership program.

Julie Ronayne, Head Teacher, Student Welfare
Peter the Potato Poet

Once upon a lime, in a galaxy not too far away, there was a shop. Its owners, Lemon and Lemon, had gone broke after selling all their magical grapefruit, so the shop had not been open for quite a while and to the public eye, seemed uninhabited. But it was inhabited. The Great Potato Prince of Poetry Land lived in there, spending his time writing truly great sonnets and epics about decay, Sunday roasts and scarecrows, all the while being invited by the popular vegies and fruit to the most spectacular of parties.

Or so he wished.

In truth, he was just lowly Peter the Ponderous Potato Poet who tried as hard as he could but could not write good poetry. He had tried everything he could think of to simplify his task. He finally decided he needed to find some sort of natural talent that he could use to express his artistic nature, but instead, he became obsessed with idea of writing melodious words about not having the artistic talent to do so, Peter lost his senses and rolled himself off his writing desk and out the window to go straight to the vegie patch and meet the Cauliflower King.

A little bit about the Cauliflower King – in Vegie Land there of course needed to be royalty to keep a potato from continuing forward. He soon found out that he was in the wrong place. He had nailed the try out! Chances were, he would win!

“Time,” boomed Granny Smith’s voice, “it’s a bit different. You have to try and tag your fellow competitors, poking them with the blunt end of a knife. Then you have to give them a challenge. The last two not tagged move on to the final round.”

“Sorry I’m late,” squealed Peter, rolling in fast, “the broccoli were being difficult.”

Peter had come in fairly confident but now he was just confused. For instance, everyone was running around crazily, instead of having scintillating conversations. “Run for your roots!” screamed Eggbert from behind him. “I will mash you”!

“What is he doing?” thought Peter.

“Don’t get poked!” yelled Granny Smith. “Run!”

Peter was good with ‘run’. For the whole half hour the egg chased Peter and Peter rolled, bumped and crashed until the presenter yelled time and they realised they were the last two still – sort of.

“We are moving on...” said the egg.

“Yep,” said Peter “I have found my calling.”

Back at home Peter was thinking happy thoughts.

“I will win the competition! I will be very popular! I mean, before, the turnips hated me as did the apples. The tomatoes, of course, just see red at everyone.”

The next day while standing on stage waiting for instructions Granny Smith hurried on looking very grave. “I have some shocking news. It seems someone has broken the rules.”

The audience all gasped loudly. Their presenter took a deep breath. “It seems that Eggbert the Egg is actually an ... EGG! Eggbert, you are eliminated”

Granny Smith.

The try out meant getting into groups and inventing a new recipe. The potato was put with Mr Onion, Ms Peachy and – oh no! – the egg, Horrots.

“We might scramble each other up!” thought Peter desperately.

Surprisingly the day passed without any incidents. If you don’t count Eggbert the Egg saying that his favourite meal was potato chips, that is. Peter just knew he had found his calling. It was very exciting, really it was. He had nailed the try out! Chances were, he would win!

“Wannabe indeed, muttered Peter to no-one in particular. “I will win the competition! I will be very popular! I mean, before, the turnips hated me as did the apples. The tomatoes, of course, just see red at everyone.”

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Granny Smith.

Peter spent his remaining days in the egg asylum, having finally cracked. Granny Smith had a lot of knitting contests with her rival, Fuji Delicious. Peter spent his time polishing his trophy and hiding from McDonald’s workers. And the tomatoes still saw red at everyone.

Lizzie, 7A

To Be Eaten, Or Not To Be Eaten

I rolled in excitement, my head spinning in anticipation (and because of the rolling). All my life I had heard stories of what it was like to be eaten. The inside of the massive cave into which all potatoes must go, was filled with kilometres and kilometres of dirt! There I would live the remainder of my life in happiness, maybe even put down roots! I would attend be famous! Successful! Maybe I would even write an autobiography. And today would be the day, I knew it! I could feel it in my ... um ... skin. For weeks I had been at the bottom of the potato bag, slowly rising towards the surface like a bubble underwater. And now I was right at the top of the spud bag, all the potatoes that been on top of me had already been eaten, and today it would be my turn! Roastspud, come here immediately! came the shrill tones of Mummy spud.

“Coming” I called. Mummy spud wasn’t really my mum (duh potatoes don’t have mums), she was just an older potato who was looking after me until I was eaten. I rolled over to where Mummy spud was sitting, quickly, because it doesn’t do to keep Mummy spud waiting.

“Well you took your time”, she huffed, “You should come straight away when I call for you Roastspud, learn some manners!”

“Sorry Mummy spud”, I mumbled.

“And speak up, do you want no one to hear you?” “No Mummy spud”, I said clearly.

To instruct the students in the art of potato making, Mummy spud had brought in a special guest, Mr Eggbert.

“I want everyone to listen carefully to what Mr Eggbert has to say about potatoes” said Mummy spud.

Mr Eggbert stood up and addressed the students.

“Boys and girls, today I am going to show you how to make the perfect potato!”
“Good, now let’s get you all fixed up for your big day”. As Mummy spud stated hustling around me suddenly there was a shout and then a roar of angry noise. I swivelled in its direction, curiosity aroused. For even though there were often violent gang fights in the potato box, I always found them interesting, it was part of my potato nature. I couldn’t see anything over the heads of the other spuds, but Mummy spud was acting very strangely. She was quivering with what seemed like anger, and was pushing me away from all the commotion. As we shoved through the gathering crowd, I caught glimpses of an old, withered looking potato on a raised box shouting at an angry mob.

“It’s not like we think it is! Being eaten will be the death of you! Please, listen to me!” The potato’s old, shaky tones echoed through my mind and made me wonder if this was an ordinary gang fight. It certainly didn’t look like one. Then Mummy spud dragged me away, muttering angrily to herself about blasphemy and other grown up things that I didn’t understand. Angry voices could be heard screaming their abuse. Some of the words I didn’t even know the meaning of and the other ones were horrible, they were: molderly, sporty, wrinkled and even inedible. Mummy spud tried to block my ears when one gangster spud yelled that out. But a lack of hands made it a bit difficult. After much rolling around we finally made it to the edge of the crowd and we were just about to make our way to our corner of the potato bag when suddenly the bag was flooded with a bright unearthly light, that seared my eyes and gave me a headache. The potato bag had been opened.

Then coming from the great, bright light came a hand, a giant hand! It was as big as three potatoes and about as long. Fights forgotten, a feeling of great excitement welled up inside of me like a fountain and I stretched up to the grasping hand, ready to be taken. Because this was the hand of legend, this was the hand that brought potatoes to be eaten. Long, fleshy fingers close around my waist, I realized I would never come back to the potato box again, I was moving on. I waved to all the other potatoes still awaiting the day when they would be chosen as the great hand pulled me out of the potato basket.

Stories from Year 7, continued.

I was placed roughly down on a board of some kind, and then left. There were two other potatoes chosen, big brutes with lots of bruises and scars. I don’t know why they were chosen over all the other potless spuds. I didn’t speak to them because, one I felt above them and two, I didn’t want them to bash me up. The board we had all been placed on was grubby and several cut marks in it. It was starting to make me a little nervous. The long, sharp blades that looked like instruments of torture weren’t really helping either. Then the ground started to shake and the knives started rattling and me and the other spuds were sent rolling. Then a massive form appeared. I had long shaggy fur hanging from a lump of flesh on another long bony piece extending from a giant hunk of fat. It was beautiful.

The thing stomped swiftly towards the towering structure we were sitting on. Once again it extended its hand toward me. It wrapped its long, had tentacles around me and picked up a sheet of silver paper. I was entranced by this.

“Sparkly”, I murmured. Then, the lump wrapped me up into it! It wasn’t so bad really, just hard to breathe. Then I felt myself being moved and placed down again. I was on a rack because I could feel the empty spaces between the bars. I wondered what was beneath the rack, some vast, empty void or a shelf. I wriggled around, it was really hot in here, and I mean really hot. I was even sweat all over potatoes don’t sweat. I could feel myself burning up, and shrivelling, all the water inside of me, evaporating. I screamed and screamed. Until my throat went all croaky.

I woke up on what felt like a ceramic surface that was cold on my back. I couldn’t remember getting there or what had just happened. I dismissed it from my mind and went to explore my new surroundings. It was a jungle! Veggies everywhere and what even looked like … meat! I had heard tales of meat, it was dead, (unlike spuds) ripped from the bodies of giant lumps of walking flub, perhaps like the ones I had seen. I loved exploring new places so I rolled myself between two beans and started looking at everything.

I was rolling my way around, examining some still carrots. They weren’t moving so I decided they were asleep. I was just about to roll away when I heard a low, anguish moan. At first I ignored it, thinking myself to have imagined it, but then I heard it a second time, unmistaken in its sorrowfulness. I peered behind a pile of moss green broccoli, and nearly threw up. There in front of me was a moving, moaning mound of mush, that smelt like a rotten brussel sprout (everyone knows how bad sprouts smell before they’ve gone rotten!). The much was quivering slightly which meant it was alive, and the fact that it was emitting low moans.

“Um … excuse me, are you alright? The mush shook and uttered something unintelligible.

“Ohh … sorry!”

“I said, what does it look like!” I ignored this comment and asked shily, feeling a little naive.

“What happened to you?” The mush’s eyes looked up into mine.

“I was eaten”,

I was silent for a few seconds, thinking, then I burst out, “But that can’t be right, being eaten’s the best thing that can ever happen to you! That’s what used to think too, kid. Then I went inside the mouth. It was horrible, wet and pink and hot with walls closing in on you and white rocks crunching on you. And did I mention that it was as hot as an oven?”

“What’s an oven?” I asked, curious. I didn’t believe this crap, but it was interesting to listen to it.

“An oven’s a place of torture and death. It burns with blue fire and you can’t do anything about it because once the door closes your stuck, and then you burn”.

Then I remembered.

I remembered the blue flames and door closing, I remembered the shrivelling up and the pain, the agony of the torture.

“Then help me, pile of much I need to get out of here fast!”

“Yes kid, believe me you do. Listen there’s a safe haven for veggie’s I’ve heard tell of. It lies underneath a large soft structure. You have to roll off the table, then you can’t miss it. This magical place is called under lounge.”

“Thank you pile of mush, thank you!” Now that I had remembered the oven, I wanted to get out of here as fast as possible. I was feeling pretty upset though, all my beliefs had just been thrown down the drain! Speedily I rolled myself through the maze of still vegetables that I now realised weren’t sleeping, they were dead. Finally I reached the edge of the cold, ceramic slab, I halted, to fear to roll off. Then the ground started shaking, and I knew that this heralded the arrival of the great lumps. I rolled off the edge and again over the edge of the table and on to the ground. But first I fell.

I seemed to fall forever, and all the time I was silently screaming. Then I hit the ground and bounced almost twice my own height. When I hit the floor again I braced myself and it didn’t hurt as much. I looked around for the large soft structure the unfortunate pile of mush had told me about. There! Just about ninety centimetres away, I rolled and rolled as fast as I could, faster than I had ever rolled before. Finally my head whirling I made it.There in front of me was a large, black, squishy looking thing. Slowly I rolled underneath it into the dark shadow cast by its looming bulk.

At first I could see nothing, then as my eyes slowly adjusted, I could begin to make out the shapes of other veggie’s. There were carrots that had bit marks in their skin, battered looking Swedes, long, gangly beans and even the super veggie, broccoli! There among the crowd, I saw the only other potato. It was the old withered potato I had seen talking to the crowd, trying to convince them that being eaten was a bad idea (he had had as much of a chance as a fly in the kitchen). Now that I had seen the old spud I had a feeling I would be safe here.

Madeleine Smith, 7A
Poems of Inner Conflict by 9E2

The dog
The saddest moment was when he lay still at my feet.
My eyes matched his red coat.
He has gone somewhere happy, but has left me sad.
My world has suddenly become empty.
1… 2… 3…. Lift.

The worst feeling
Like being squashed between bricks!
No answer being shouted at my face!
The worst nightmare ever.
My life is a black hole.
GO AWAY?
It's a trouble I must face alone,
an endless horror movie stuck at the climax.
I take the plunge and run.
I'd rather run away!

Independence

Dependence,
A comfortable cozy old lounge

The cosy flowerpot
That confines my roots.
Get up!

Independence,
A breath of fresh air

Like standing on the edge of a waterfall.
The isolation of freedom

So many choices,
Appearance,
Diet,
Activity,
Independence – Control.

Poverty
It brings me sorrow to think that they are without food and water.
Rich in heart, poor in life.
Happiness is rare in the eye of the storm.
Love is the apple of their eye.

Fetch water from the oasis.
Their golden hearts are pure as white doves.
Broken souls like shattered glass

Overridden with anger!

With music the mind is at peace.

Year 7 Visual Arts Lessons Afloat
On Friday the seventeenth of February I had the pleasure of being one of the staff escorting our Year 7 students as they were introduced to the wonders of our beautiful harbour. Year 7 had the opportunity of joining ‘Lessons Afloat’ an educational boat trip around the harbour which gave our students the opportunity to extend their artistic abilities as they sketched Luna Park, The Blues Tower, Sydney's industrial heritage and allowed them to sketch and lunch at Shark Island.

Aside from the beautiful weather the conduct and behaviour of more than one hundred and twenty Year Sevens, as they moved en masse through our neighbouring streets and public transport system was exemplary. The conduct and behaviour of our Year Sevens reflected all that is wonderful about Public Education and young people as a whole.

The staff aboard ‘Lessons Afloat’ were warmed by the excellent manners and were inundated with thank you after thank you. The artistic response from students showed their enjoyment and interest in discovering their harbour. Their initial sketches and photographs will now build towards producing work for exhibition. It was a wonderful opportunity for Year Sevens to get to know each other beyond the classroom and to look again at their environment and see and record the beauty of their surrounds through their artistic expression.

Thank you to our Art teachers Ms Teixier and Mrs Caprin for their wonderful organisation.

Ms Barry, Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts

Swimming Carnival 2012
We had fabulous weather yet again for the CGHS Swimming Carnival in 2012. It was great to see a large number of students participate in multiple events throughout the day. Big congratulations to all of our Age Champions and Zone Swimming Carnival Representatives.

With a new House Patron this year, Ms Flannery led Darwin to victory in the overall House Points Score with an amazing number of students entering races to win points for their House. A special mention goes out to Brisbane for their fantastic cheering efforts and supportive team spirit.

Catering for all students and their level of ability is important at CGHS. Throughout the day many girls had the opportunity to get their hair wet in the Novelty Competitions and 25m races. The Year 12 Prefects did an amazing job fundraising and providing sustenance to our swimmers with their BBQ. This year’s dress up theme was ‘Something Beginning with S’. Many students and teachers added to the wonderful atmosphere with an array of spectacular costumes. Well done to everyone on a great day at the pool.
**Clean up Australia**

Green Dear girls of Canterbury Girls participated in Clean Up Australia Day on the 2nd March 2012. We took responsibility on behalf of the whole school to clean up our environment. The school premise was our site for cleaning and we were proud to see the end result of a clean school. Though the rain hampered our initiative to clean the school and its surroundings, our spirits were high. We cleaned up the canteen area, the A, B and C blocks. The girls were very enthusiastic and this was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate our role in keeping the environment clean and healthy.

**GREEN Dear Group**

**Excursion to the Wild Life World and Aquarium Year Eight**

On the second of March, Year 8 students went to Wild life World and the Aquarium for Art. First we went to the Wild Life World and saw the butterflies, wallabies, billys alligators and bugs.

The butterfly enclosure was very warm and tropical, with many different colours and sizes of butterflies. One of the students had a butterfly sit on them for a very long time! There was also a frog habitat in the butterfly enclosure. The Outback was full of kangaroos with bright red sand and a desert environment. It started to rain as we were approaching the Outback so I didn’t get a chance to go in.

There was a massive alligator which frightened many, especially me! It’s environment was very much like a forest, wet and green. On the same day we went to the Aquarium which had sharks, jellyfish, fish, crabs, lobsters, stingrays and dugongs. The Aquarium is dark and cool.

We saw huge stingrays and sharks hovering in the glass tunnel. It was so scary when the shark nudged the glass. I screamed! Ms Texier had a great laugh when I bumped my head on the glass wall! When we went to visit the dugongs, they decided to hide from us, what a shame. We would like to thank all the animals that put on a show for us.

**Simmy Hussein**

**Canteen Area update**

The upgrade of the school Canteen area begins in earnest during the next school holidays. When students return next term construction will still be under way of the main area, so while this is a short term restriction we hope to have reopened the area by week 5 of term 2.

Students will vote soon on the colour scheme for the area. The project will not be totally finished until 2013, but will significantly improve the amenities for students, especially when it rains.

**International Women’s Day**

**Closing Speech by School Captains Helen Wang, Jade Doyle and SRC member Sarah Armed, Year 11.**

Thank you to our guest speakers, who have shared with us their stories, whether it be their struggles, successes or future goals. They are both inspirational women who are proactive in their community and doing some amazing things. Hopefully we will emulate your strength and courage and we, too, as young women, will be able to overcome obstacles and challenges that will undoubtedly be thrown across our path as we journey through life.

We can certainly start here and now by striving to improve our academic performance every day we’re at school because as we all know “knowledge is power” and it is through education that we will be able to harness our strengths and talents and direct them as we wish in order to succeed in all our endeavours. We have the ability, we have the choice and we the SRC and PREFECT bodies know that we represent the whole student population when we declare that WE CHOOSE SUCCESS!

As capable, powerful future young women of the world, we can proudly celebrate the honour that it is to be a woman. As Kia and Susan mentioned earlier, women in the past carved the path for women’s rights, struggled and fought to be free of discrimination, lack of choice, and stereotypes, and refused to follow the conventions of being just housewives and child bearers with no other choices.

Today we have the choice to be mothers, career women, caregivers, astronauts, politicians, pilots, surgeons, plumbers and anything we want to be! We are proud to acknowledge not only these heroines long gone who accomplished much in terms of shaping our world and changing the path of history but also all the women of the here now that are making a difference to us during our most formative years like our mothers, our teachers, our female politicians and heads of state, women who are CEOs in huge companies who are breaking that glass ceiling more and more every day and are teaching us to persevere and to reach out and fight for our choices. Every generation has influenced the next, one after the other, and it is our turn to have an impact on the next generation. It is in fact our duty to heed the examples of our predecessors learn well the lessons taught and go after our goals with confidence and conviction knowing that by succeeding ourselves, we set strong foundations for future generations of women to be able to make their own choices and pursue their dreams thereby ensuring and bequeathing a better world to future generations.

As spoken by Christabel Pankhurst, a co-founder of the Women’s Social and Political Union, “Remember the dignity of your womanhood. Do not appeal, do not beg, do not grovel. Take courage, join hands, stand beside us, fight with us.” As women we can do that. With better education and more informed choices as educated women we don’t have to appeal, grovel or beg anymore. With education comes a certain power that allows us to have courage, to stand tall and fight for what we want.

We leave you with a final message as to “who runs the world?” and I’m sure you will agree that “Girls do!”

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**Canteen Area update**

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**Simmy Hussein**
Prefect News

The prefects have had an extremely busy but rewarding start to the new school year:

They hit the ground running on Day 1 with not only their own lessons but also their wonderful efforts to ensure that our Year 7 students had a smooth and pleasant commencement to their high school journey. The prefects escorted them to class every period, gave directions and answered a myriad of questions and mentored many a bewildered Year 7 student, particularly over the timetable and the daily routine!

The Prefects also took up the organisation and running of the weekly Monday Assembly which ensures the successful exchange and imparting of news, announcements and general information between all members of our school community.

In week 3 they chaired and assisted with the High Achievers’ Assembly which is an annual source of pride for our school and our ex students but also a foreshadowing of imminent success on the part of the Prefects as they reflect on the numerous opportunities the role has afforded them in terms of leading, serving and succeeding in a range of situations as they approach the last phases of high school.

During Open School Night the Prefects once again welcomed and escorted the many groups of visitors around the school, responded to queries and chaired the formal part of the night impressing visitors and staff alike with their confidence as well as their pleasant and polite manner.

The Prefects’ many talents were also on display at the Swimming carnival where they single handed organised a BBQ, cooked for and fed a crowd of over 600 hungry swimmers, spectators and staff and organised and ran a number of competitions in their attempts to fundraise for their school.

In week 6 and 7 they threw themselves further into the foray of fundraising with zeal and determination and in week 8 along with the SRC they chaired and welcomed special guests to our formal Assembly to celebrate International Woman’s Day. The preparation time (DEAR and lunchtimes) culminating in this assembly saw two groups of school leaders - Prefects and SRC - collaborating successfully, exchanging ideas, putting them to practice and ensuring a successful outcome via team work, cooperation, delegation and successful execution - skills they will be able to draw on in the future as they navigate through life, relationships and different working environments.

Keeping up with their many obligations including their academic responsibilities which take priority and their multi-faceted involvement in all aspects of school life is what makes this group of girls praiseworthy leaders and excellent role models to our younger students.

Sylvia Kovanis, Prefects Co-ordinator

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Music Ensembles News

If you are interested in finding out more information about our extra-curricular music programs do not hesitate to call me on 9718 1805 or email louise.flannery@det.nsw.edu.au.

I look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at our performances this year!!

Louise Flannery, Music Ensemble Co-Ordinator

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Alice the musical

We are pleased to announce the results of our school design competition to find our designs for our T-Shirts for the forthcoming production of Alice. Congratulations to Hafiro Santoro for her amazing winning design and to Imogen Smith for her whimsical hanging cat.

All students who entered showed amazing imagination and inspiration. Contributing designs appropriate for display on our Production T shirt, posters and programs demanded that the year nines had an understanding of the use of colour, the intended purpose and the ability to come up with an eye catching design. Congratulations to our winners but also to all those Year 9 Visual Arts students who contributed their designs and logos for Alice.

Rehearsals are well under way and just a reminder that students in the main dramatic cast will be rehearsing from 10am – 4pm on Saturday 24th March in the MPC.

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GARDENING WORKING BEE

To all green thumbs out there

Saturday 24.3.12
from 2pm – 5pm

Entry via the Church Street Gates.

Work to be done includes
a new garden near
the basketball court and
other general maintenance
and mulch spreading.

All welcome.
U@UNSW Program

The U@UNSW program was piloted in 2011 to enable a small number of students from equity backgrounds an opportunity to potentially gain up to ten extra ATAR points towards a course at the University of NSW by undertaking a series of seminars and pre-entry examinations.

Canterbury Girls was fortunate to have both Year 11 and Year 12 students participate in this pilot in 2011 and one Year 12 student – Barbara Pekorava – was offered a place in the University as a result of her successful participation in the program.

A number of Year 11 students potentially earned extra ATAR points as a result of completing University of NSW seminars at the end of 2011, and it is hoped that this will positively impact upon any offers they receive to attend the University of NSW in 2013.

Ms Matos and myself recently met with Kerry Fielding, the Officer from the University of NSW coordinating the program, and a former student of Canterbury Girls High School, to finalise nominations for Year 12, 2012. This was a very difficult process as we had so many worthy nominations, and the program was popular with so many students. However an additional five students were finally selected and added to the nominations from Year 11, 2011.

Shortly, Ms Matos and I will meet to determine Year 11 students to enter the program. This is sure to be another competitive process, but we are confident that we can select fifteen outstanding nominations to participate in the U@UNSW program.

Students who miss on being selected for the program should note that there are other programs which can assist entry to University, and students should approach Ms Matos for information regarding these programs if this information is required.

Request for Parent Support

I would like to ask all parents and caregivers to assist me with three issues:

Firstly, can students please leave all valuables at home wherever possible? There have been a small number of reports of valuables being taken which understandably cause great distress to students and their families. If there is any evidence of theft, Ashfield Police will be contacted immediately. However, students would assist by not bringing valuables to school and not bringing money except a small amount needed for recess / lunch etc. Parents and caregivers can pay for excursions etc by credit card over the phone and should avoid sending large amounts of money with their daughters.

Secondly, while uniform is on the whole excellent, there remains an issue with some students wearing incorrect shoes, or the incorrect jumper / jacket. Black leather shoes must be worn by all students 7-12 as an Occupational Health & Safety requirement. Students may wear a plain navy blue jumper only, or a plain navy / grey or white cardigan. Patterns etc are not allowed.

Finally, can parents please support all students to be at school by 8.35am each day? Roll Call commences at 8.40am yet there are a small number of students who are repeatedly late. Students have been asked to catch an earlier bus if their current bus cannot be here for the start of the school day. Students should not be attending local eateries for breakfast and then coming late.

Andrew Anderson,
Deputy Principal

PLEASE CONTACT US
if any personal contact details have changed - see our email contact below:
canterburg-h.School@det.nsw.edu.au

REMINdERS for families

Change of Contact Details: Please ensure that if your address or phone number has been changed school administration is informed. A Change of Contact Details Form can be collected from Office A.

Curriculum Years 7-10: At the end of March a Scope and Sequence Summary of all topics and associated assessment information will be on the website for families of students in Years 7-10.

Excursions: The school is more than happy for students to pay overnight excursions off across the year as long as a $50 deposit is paid prior to departure. One day excursions must be paid in full before departure.

School Performance Ensembles: A reminder to all families who have a student in either the orchestra, strings ensemble, percussion ensemble, drama ensembles, choir or dance ensembles that costs are involved for these activities and that these will appear on invoices mailed at the end of this month.

Newsletter by email: All families will receive an SMS when the newsletter is available on the webpage. This comes out each month and issue dates are on the calendar on the website. The newsletter is emailed to all students as well. If you wish to have a hard copy your student must collect this from Office A.

School Calendar: Please check the student calendar on the school website for excursion dates, upcoming events, and rehearsal times: www.canterburg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Holiday Dates: Please note the last day of first term is Thursday 5 April with school resuming on Tuesday 24 April. Easter public holidays run from 6 to 9 April.

School Fees

Invoices have been sent to all families for the year. Thank you to all those families who have begun to pay off fees and excursions. Please note that we generously cover the cost of camps by allowing students to attend after only paying a $50 deposit.

The expectation is that families then pay this off across the year. Unfortunately in a small number of cases people are not paying off the balance, ever. If you know you have outstanding fees from previous years please remedy this as a matter of urgency.

Students will not be able to attend this year’s camps if they have outstanding balances from previous years. Please note that your daughter’s costs in most instances are tax deductible - details regarding this are in the information following.

2011 Annual School Report is now available on the school website www.Canterbury-h.Schools.nsw.edu.au

PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

2012 Executive:
President: Karin Badart
V-Presidents: Ian Flowers and Dimity Flowers
Secretary: Jo Schofield
Assistant Secretary: Tanya Jackson-Vaughan
Treasurer: Karen Goes
Assistant Treasurer: Sue Paredes

2012 MEETING DATES: Cantabrian Hall
7.30 p.m. (entry via Church Street)
28th March 22nd August
23rd May 24th October
27th June 28th November
25th July

Sue Paredes
Treasurer:
Jo Schofield
Assistant Secretary:
Karin Badart
V-Presidents:
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Cantabrian Hall
March 2012
Eligible expenses

For the purposes of the ETR, eligible educational expenses are:

- laptops, home computers and associated costs (including repair and running costs of computer equipment, lease costs, printers and paper);
- home internet connection;
- education software;
- school textbooks and material (including prescribed textbooks, associated learning materials, study guides and stationery); and
- prescribed trade tools.

Eligible expenses that have been incurred by a parent or guardian with more than one child with an ETR entitlement can be pooled and claimed against the children's combined ETR entitlement, provided that the children all have access to the purchased items.

Education expenses in excess of what can be claimed in a financial year (that is, expenses over $1,500 per annum for a secondary school student or $750 for a primary school student) are able to be carried over in the following financial year. Eligible expenses that are not utilised for the purpose of claiming the ETR in the financial year that they occurred or the subsequent financial year will automatically lapse.

The ETR cannot be claimed for educational expenses if a tax deduction is allowed or a Commonwealth Government payment/subsidy is payable in respect of that expense.

Commencement of the ETR

The refundable tax offset applies to eligible expenses incurred from 1 July 2008. Parents cannot claim the offset in their 2007-08 income tax return, but they should start keeping records after 1 July 2008 to enable their ETR claim to be made in their 2008-09 income tax return.

Claiming the ETR

Parents can simply claim the refund against eligible education expenses incurred from 1 July 2008, when they complete their 2008-09 income tax return.

Parents and eligible independent students who do not ordinarily lodge an income tax return can also claim the refund through the Australian Taxation Office.

For those who are not required to complete an income tax return, a separate form will be available from 1 July 2009 to allow the refund to be claimed for the 2008-09 financial year.

Evidence to support an ETR claim

Claimants are expected to retain receipts for the purchases of items for which they intend to claim the ETR.

For further information about the Education Tax Refund please visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au or phone the Australian Taxation Office on 13 28 61.
The MUSICAL

Time: 7pm
Where: Canterbury Girls High School MPC
When: MAY 2012, Thurs 24th, Fri 25th, Sat 26th
Book tickets at office C or by calling 97181805

Story by Lewis Carroll, adapted by Sarah Marquet

She's not your ordinary Alice...