

Week 2 Term 2 Wrap Up

Dear Families and Carers

I begin by thanking the many parents who have sent kind messages to my while I recovered from surgery last term. It is certainly lovely to be back and to see our students coming into Term 2 and so keen to learn. I also extend my thanks to Dan Breen who acted as Principal in my absence and the terrific staff who really stepped up into higher level roles and ensured our school travelled so well.

Open Night

Open Night is coming up fast and will be upon us next Tuesday 15th May! Many of your children will have brought notes home requesting permission to attend and assist at the open night. I encourage you to support them to attend. One of the very special features of our open night is the number of our students who come along to provide tours, answer questions and share their own experiences of Campbell High with potential new students. People always comment on the warmth and sense of community that they feel at our open nights and it is because of the commitment of our staff and our students that this is the case.

Enrolments and Contact Details

We are of course in the midst of the enrolment period and if you have a younger child whom you intend to enrol I ask that you embark upon the online process as soon as possible. Knowing our enrolment application numbers early certainly helps us to plan our staffing and resources for the forthcoming year. In addition, there have been changes to the ACT Education Directorate enrolment policy which particularly impacts on students who reside in NSW. Please direct anyone who needs further information to our website.

This is also the time of year when I will ask that you ensure your address and contact details are up to date and, if there have been changes, that you let us know via the front office.

Year 7 Camp

As I write, our Year 7 students are on their camp. This year was a record year of attendance with over 190 year 7 students going along. I have seen some photos already and they certainly look as though they are having a ball despite this colder weather. Such camps are great opportunities for our students to learn new skills, develop as a team, build new relationships and grow in confidence and I thank Owen Cusick and the team for their excellent work in organising this and attending.

ANZAC Day Assembly

Last week we held our annual ANZAC Day Assembly. As always, the students were incredibly respectful and reflective. Our student presenters were articulate and their pieces were moving and informative and I offer special thanks to Jazmine who gave two performances of pieces she had written. Thank you to Nick Carey-Ide for his organisation and to RMC Band who provided the bugler for this important event.

Athletics Carnival

The 17th of May is also another very special event on the Campbell Calendar with our Athletics Carnival taking place. These carnivals are special days for us and it is always my joy to see our students and staff cheering, taking part and dancing the day away. Even if your child doesn't feel they wish to participate in main events, please encourage them to attend and contribute to the wonderful school spirit that is so evident at our carnivals.

As a small aside.....did you know that Campbell High School participates in more sporting competitions than almost any school in Canberra? Our sports coordinator, Corey Gray **works** tirelessly to accommodate the sporting aspirations of our students and has also ensured that many of our students are supported to join community sporting teams outside of school. I have already heard that we have some potential equestrians arriving in our next cohort of students and can't wait to watch a 'Campbell Equestrian Team' competing in the near future!

Uniform

Winter is not just coming... it has arrived! Please ensure your student has a warm Campbell High hoodie or jacket so that they are in uniform and cosy. The introduction of the hoodies has been received very positively by our student body and I can confirm that they are great quality (I even wear mine to watch weekend sport ... so proud of our school!). Please contact the front office for details.

Building Upgrades

Julie Molyneux, our excellent Business Manager, worked hard over stand down to have all downstairs ceilings replaced – they look bright and fresh, and to have the PE bathrooms fully renovated. These are not quite finished yet but the level of thought and money that has gone into providing modern and useable facilities for students will be very evident when they reopen in the coming days. The school is looking very attractive and I am grateful for how tirelessly Julie and her team work to provide such a warm, welcoming learning environment for students.

Safety and Bicycles

Just a small note to please remind your children that if they are riding to school (which we LOVE) that they need to place their bikes into the bike shed as soon as they arrive. We have had some students wanting to ride around on school grounds causing safety concerns with canteen delivery drivers and staff driving in to park.

Year 10 Celebrations

I met this morning with our year 10 group to give more details about the new format for formal and graduation following some worries they had expressed. I apologise that the full messaging wasn't initially clear but was delighted by the positive response that almost all the students had once things were fully explained. I love that Campbell High is such a unique community and know that the event will be spectacular and a truly connected way to celebrate their achievements. I encourage you to talk to your children over the weekend and, as they know, they are welcome to come and see me to talk at any time.

Thank a staff member

I have never worked in a school where so many of the staff – teachers and admin and support staff alike – work so hard to support students and care for their learning and wellbeing inside and outside of school. As always, I encourage you to take a couple of moments to write an email to a staff member who you know has provided support or gone above and beyond for your child. Often we receive emails when something has gone wrong and it gives such a lift to receive one to let us know that we have done something right 😊

Enjoy the weekend! For those of you with winter sport underway, stay warm & Happy Mother's Day!

Regards and best wishes

Kerrie