



CERDON COLLEGE, MERRYLANDS

NEWSLETTER

Week 6: Term 4

19 November, 1998

Dear Parents,

Our School Vision Statement, to which all members of our community contributed, states that Cerdon is "a multicultural community which seeks to live out the values of Christ in a caring and supportive environment". As one of its aims it says that we strive for "the fostering of positive relationships and an atmosphere of care and respect for each member of our community". The staff is currently working on two facets which seek to bring our goals to reality, a multicultural policy and a student welfare policy. The staff committee working on the multicultural policy has prepared a draft which has been taken to the Student Forum so that every student in the school, via her Student Forum representative, can have a chance to see the policy and comment on it. At the Parents and Friends meeting next Tuesday evening, the policy will be tabled and comments invited. Below I have taken some extracts from the draft policy, part of the Rationale and the Aims, to give all parents some idea of what it involves. If you have strong feelings on any of the issues raised, I would encourage you to come along to the P&F meeting and have your say.

Rationale:

Australia is a multicultural nation in the sense that it is composed of many cultures. Multiculturalism is a social value which focuses on national unity within which there is cultural diversity.

Multiculturalism is about inclusion and recognition. It recognises the right of all Australians to enjoy their cultural heritage and the right to equal treatment and opportunities for everyone regardless of their backgrounds.

Cerdon College is Australia in microcosm. It is a culturally diverse school and has, for many years, educated young women from a wide variety of backgrounds.

We must ensure that all students are treated equally so that all may be provided with the

opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of cultural background or ethnicity.

Aim:

To provide an environment which:

- *acknowledges that Australia is a multicultural society where different ethnic groups can co-exist harmoniously.*
- *recognises and values cultural differences.*
- *respects individuals as equals.*
- *fosters self-esteem and*
- *encourages unity and a sense of community through the development of positive personal relationships.*

The draft policy then sets out objectives and implementation strategies. These will be available on the night of the P&F meeting and any suggestions welcomed. Please make an effort to come along.

Our Year 12 students continue their HSC. For many, the exams have finished but for some, their exams continue until the end of next week. Your continued prayers for the girls would be appreciated.

Best wishes,
Paul Dolan

NATIONAL AEROBICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our aerobics teams brought their sensational season to a close last week when they competed in the Sport Aerobics Australian Championships in Melbourne. The two teams had achieved outstanding success in the FINA Championships and followed this up with great results in this competition. The Coolibah team of Erin, Kristy and Jaime achieved fourth place at the national level, and the Sound Construction team of Melissa, Amanda and Natalie won the silver medal. Congratulations to both teams once again on their success in an Australian championship. Congratulations also to the Cerdon Sevens team of Marina, Lindsey, Allison and Annie who took part in the NSW Schoolaerobics Spring Challenge. This relatively new team achieved sixth place out of eighteen teams. Thankyou to

the teams sponsors throughout the year, Sound Construction and the Coolibah Fitness Centre. A big thankyou to Starr and Partners Real Estate Merrylands who donated \$500 to assist both teams to travel to Melbourne for the National titles. Congratulations once again to the girls' coach, Ms Diakoumis, on the success of the teams throughout the year.

ELUSIVE : CERDON COLLEGE ART EXHIBITION

All parents are invited to the Art Exhibition which will be held in Chavoin Hall tomorrow night commencing at 7.30pm. Those who have attended in previous years will be aware of the high quality of works which will be on display from your daughters. The show will be opened by well known artist Lyndall Phelps from The Museum of Contemporary Art.

UWS TALENTED STUDENT ADVANCED OFFER PROGRAM

Congratulations to Melanie and Jumana (Year 12) who have both been offered places at UWS, Melanie for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Sports Studies, and Jumana for a Bachelor of Commerce/Law. Well done girls!

THANKYOU TO ALL OUR HELPERS

An invitation is extended to all those parents and friends who have assisted us throughout the year in so many ways, whether working in the canteen, on the P&F, in working bees, through exam supervision or in the many other ways that you have done, to join us for a Mass and supper on Monday 30th November at 7.30pm in the library. If you are able to join us could you please let the Office know on 9632 8759.

ASIA WISE

Twenty-four students from Years 7 & 8 took part in the Asia Wise Geography Competition, with five students achieving credits: Natalie, Annie, Clothide, Roxanne and Anna. Ten students from Years 9 & 10 took part with three students achieving credits: Clare, Michelle and Rachel and one student, Eleanor, achieving a High Distinction. Congratulations girls on your great results!

Mrs Larobina

PEER SUPPORT

Our Year 9 students underwent two days of training in the Peer support Leadership Program. The following girls were successful in their application to become Peer Support Leaders, fulfilling the vital task of helping our new Year 7 students settle into high school. Congratulations to: Rene, Matia, Carly, Lauren, Alicia, Renee, Susan, Danielle, Clare, Kylea, Georgette, Roxanne, Elanor, Melissa, Rita, Nicolette, Kelly, Jackie, Jacqueline, Rachel, Tania, Natalie, Diana, Naomi, Alisha, Hayley, Rachel, Annalise, Roslyn, Kim. *Mrs Hackney*

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Once again this year we will be supporting the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Each homeroom is asked to make up a hamper which will assist a family in need. We aim to supply forty families with some Christmas cheer. The girls in each homeroom have been provided with the details of what should go into each hamper. Your help in whatever way you can provide will be appreciated.

The Vinnies Merrylands Conference is also looking for adult volunteers to deliver the hampers. Many who currently deliver the hampers are elderly and find it difficult to negotiate the stairs. Any parents who could volunteer their services to deliver the hampers would be gladly welcomed. If you can assist could you ring the Office on 9632 8759, and names will be passed on to the St Vincent de Paul organisation. Many thanks. *Miss Buljan*

LOWES SCHOOL AND SPORTSWEAR

Our thanks are extended to Lowes for their donation of over \$1000 from profits from the sale of uniforms throughout the year.

GENEROUS READERS

Congratulations to the small group of devoted readers who entered the M.S. Read-a-Thon, read 129 books and raised a total of \$575.05. It was a terrific effort and all proceeds will go towards research into Multiple Sclerosis. Well done girls!
Year 7: Elise, Jena, Christina, Clothilde, Audrey.

