

Cambridge Gardens Public School

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MARCH WRAP-UP

STAFFING NEWS

Just to let you know, I will be taking leave from April 4 until June 2. Mrs Casey Hetherington will be relieving as Principal throughout this period. Mr Beau Hunter will move into the Assistant Principal Student Wellbeing role and Mrs Wendy Wright will again be the Assistant Principal for Early Stage 1 and Stage 1. Thanks for your understanding and support with these changes over the coming weeks.

Adam Wynn

Principal

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

A big congratulations to Tatum Crocker and Brayden Dunn who were selected in the Penrith PSSA District Rugby League Under 12s team following the zone trials. We wish these boys all the best at the Sydney West trials on April 4 at the Ponds Stadium.

A big congratulations to Eva Sylvester who participated in the Penrith PSSA Girls' Basketball team at the Sydney West trials. Eva had a great time on the day, with her team coming third.

PULSE ALIVE



A huge shout out to our students and teachers who were part of our Pulse Alive 25 dancing and choir groups. It culminated into an amazing show with our students performing brilliantly and having an amazing time. Our school was well represented in the Choir, Dance Ensemble and

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the First Nations Dance Group. A huge thank you to Mrs Antonelli, Mrs Williams and Mrs Thompson for their fantastic organisation and coaching and also thank you to Mrs Winters and Mr Burke for their work in supporting our groups and their coaches! It was great to hear and see Cambridge Gardens Public School called out and interviewed and also to hear we were the school with the highest number of students representing in the First Nations Dance Group! Woo Hoo and well done!

STUDENT USE OF DIGITAL DEVICES AND ONLINE SERVICES PROCEDURES REMINDER

Our school provides for digital devices for our students in their classrooms for learning. These devices are Department of Education devices with enhanced security and safety measures.

Therefore and, as per Department of Education mandatory requirements students are not permitted to use personal digital devices throughout the school day. This includes mobile phones and smart watches.

The school practice continues to be that all students hand in their personal devices to the front office on arrival at school and collects them from the school office on departure. These devices will be stored in the school safe throughout the school day. We continue to encourage parents to carefully consider whether your child needs to bring this valuable device to school each day.

Unfortunately as the use of school mode on smart watches can not be monitored by school staff for the safety of all students and staff, these devices need to be stored in the front office.

There have been a number of occasions when digital devices have been used by students inappropriately. Students, parents, and staff need to ensure they undertake their responsibilities and obligations as outlined in this procedure. A copy of the full procedure will be sent to all parents separately today.

CRICKET GALA DAY

On Tuesday March 25th, 36 students from Stages 2 and 3 travelled to Jamison Park to participate in the Try Cricket Day (formerly known as Penrith Cup). All students played with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship on the day. Many students had never played cricket before with some saying that they absolutely loved playing cricket and want to play it on weekends now. Teams played three games of the day. A big thank you to Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Hunter who helped out and coached teams on the day.

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Here is what some of the students had to say about the day:

On Tuesday, we went to Jamison Park for our Cricket Gala Day. I was on Mr. Dearie's team. Our second game we had a bye. We were undefeated in all our games. On our last game, it started raining. We versed three different schools. Jack was on my team. I enjoyed the day.

Oscar - Nutrition

On Tuesday, I went to cricket and I had fun. We won 2 times and we played different schools. The other team hit the ball first, then we hit the ball. My teacher was Mrs. Nelson and when we were waiting, we played hand cricket. I had lots of fun.

Lilly - Nutrition

The cricket day was sooo much fun and so friendly! All the teams had a bye, which was fair. After our first game, we had recess and lunch. Then, we played games two and three. I hit a few 4s and 6s and even took a hattrick. Then we went back to school.

Connor - Durability

The Cricket Gala Day was more fun than I thought it would be. It was the first time I had ever played cricket, and I had a great time with my friends. My favourite part was batting.

Jesse - Tranquility

I had a lot of fun learning cricket with my friends. My favourite thing was batting but I still enjoyed bowling. I hit a 6 and a few 4s.

Jayden - Tranquility

I did well on the cricket day. It was probably the most fun day of school. We played 3 games and 1 bye. We also took a bus. The bus was so fun. I improved drastically.

Isaac - Willpower

It was fun swapping and playing in different places and hitting 6s and 4s. I enjoyed being the bowler. We took the bus there and back and we played 3 games against different schools. Parents came to watch.

Blair - Willpower

Mr. Jeremy Dearie

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

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Following discussion at this week's P&C we would like to share with you our school communications channels:

1. **SENTRAL Parent Portal**- I believe all parents and carers can have access and receive information-grandparents and others can get access if necessary so please see Mrs McCoy if you are having difficulties with receiving this information. Sometimes it is your settings, sometimes it is ours. Following discussion this week at P&C, we will go back to scheduling notes for Tuesdays unless it is an emergency. We will seek your feedback on this in the April Wrap Up.
2. **SCHOOL WEBSITE**- Notes and Portal messages are placed on the school website under **notes** to allow easy access to re-refer to them or if you would like to print one for your fridge.
3. At the end of each month we will have our **monthly wrap up** or newsletter with the intention that this comes out on the first of the month.
4. **FACEBOOK**-will be our utilised for school promotion and reminders

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY Our school's Clean Up Australia Day event was supposed to be held on Friday 28th February, however due to extreme heat and wet weather, it was postponed several weeks in a row until finally we were able to hold the event in Week 9. Students went out to their designated areas around the school with their teachers to pick up any rubbish they could find and place it into the bin. Our students' efforts helped to keep our school grounds, learning areas and play areas clean and beautiful and to reduce the impact of litter and waste on the environment. All students participated keenly and with great enthusiasm as Cambridge Gardens Public School stays committed to improving and maintaining our sustainability and healthy environmental practices.

Mr James Kristof



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HPGE GROUPS UPDATE

Our High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) groups are all up and running! Mr Kristof has been working with the Stage 3 Hawking Group who have been working on identifying sustainability issues in our school community and have begun the research phase of the 2025 Game Changer Challenge. The group will be focusing on reducing/reusing plastic packaging on a school level, as well as focusing on developing our school's paper recycling initiatives.

Mr Kristof has also been working with the Stage 2 Einstein Group who have been preparing for the upcoming Maths Games and are about to undertake their first research projects, focusing on the Pyramids, Ice Core Drilling and Snake Venom.

Mr Hunter has been working with the Stage 1 Webb Group who have been utilising Bluebots to engage with coding and problem-solving challenges.

Mr Kristof



SAFE AND



RESPONSIBLE INTERNET USE

As a school we have been dealing with inappropriate use of the internet and the consequences of this over the past few weeks. The following is advice I have been giving to our students and families in regards to this. Parents must monitor their children, what platforms they are using and what securities and privacies they have. Parents need to limit use and time, supervise use, discuss and deal with poor behaviour. As you are aware many of our students are operating on platforms against the age restrictions on them.

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We tell our students the best strategy is to screenshot inappropriate behaviour and provide this to the school or Police, report the user to the platform administrators, block the user and if necessary delete the APP. Do not respond to the inappropriate behaviour.

The school will be hosting the Online Guardians initiative after the holidays to work with our students in regards to safety and responsibility online as well as working with our parents and carers informing you about what our students are engaging with and helping parents and carers to protect and keep their children safe online.

The school will also be working with our students around this issue on “Stop Cyberbullying Day” which is on Friday June 20

Stage 3 Chemistry Science Show

On Monday 31st March, Stage 3 classes participated in the Chemistry Science Show in the hall, conducted by educators from Fizzics. During the show, students learned all about chemical reactions and changes, properties of solids, liquids and gases and the uses of chemistry in the real world.

Experiments and investigations demonstrated during the incursion included making Elephant’s toothpaste, capturing and comparing hydrogen, carbon dioxide and “normal” air, and how to make flames change colour by burning various different metals.

The students were highly engaged and entertained whilst learning all about chemistry.

Mr James Kristof



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ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL AND SYDNEY WEST SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 5th March, 19 of our students competed in the Zone Swimming Carnival at Penrith Ripples Leisure Centre. It was fantastic to see another large turnout of parents and supporters for our students to cheer them on throughout the day!

I'd like to congratulate all of our students who attended the carnival who represented Cambridge Gardens Public School with pride and once again achieved some truly fantastic results. Special congratulations to Connor Cardozo who finished 2nd in the 9 years Boys 50m Freestyle, and to Henry Kilgour who finished first in the Junior Boys 50m Backstroke. Both Henry and Connor progressed through to the Sydney West Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park on Thursday 27th March.

The team spirit displayed by all of the students who attended Zone Swimming Carnival was excellent! A special thanks to Mrs Hetherington for being our team manager at the carnival and thanks again to all the spectators who attended to show support to our students!

At the Sydney West Swimming Carnival on Thursday 27th March, both Connor and Henry competed fantastically but unfortunately did not qualify to go through to the State Carnival. Congratulations to both Henry and Connor for their wonderful swimming achievements this year!

Mr James Kristof



QuickSmart

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Mrs Kim Latter

McDonald's Fundraiser

On Tuesday 25th March, CGPS staff served your orders at McDonald's to help raise funds for our Year 6 Farewell later in the year.

We are very thankful to Cambridge Gardens McDonalds for having us again this year and for the support our community showed for this event. There was a huge turn out and it was a fun night for everyone.

Mr William Tate



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PARENT RESPONSES TO STUDENT ISSUES

The most important thing as a school community is that we all work together toward resolving the issues and problems our students encounter. I ask that all parents and carers work in positive partnerships with our school staff to do this. When parents and carers attempt to resolve issues directly with other parents or students it usually escalates the situation in both the school setting and in the community.

I talked at P&C this week about how one of the most important things for your child is their belief and understanding of parents and carers support of the school. It is so important that the message you give your child is positive toward school staff, our school and our students. As a parent myself, I have often needed to take a breath, say to my child, "I'll check that out tomorrow", and see how we can solve this.

I need to remind all parents and carers that it is not appropriate to talk to, intimidate or abuse other people's children. As a school there are processes that can lead to parents and carers being banned from the school. All incidences such as these are reported to the Department of Education Incident Hotline and to Police. I encourage all parents and carers to contact the Police if situations escalate in the community.

Pulse Alive 2025



Wow, what a spectacular night of performances and entertainment!

We are all so proud of our 40 students that participated in the Pulse Alive 2025 Performance at the Ken Rosewall Tennis Arena Olympic Park on Thursday the 20th March.

Pulse Alive is a large-scale event, providing high-quality opportunities in the performing arts for students and teachers from NSW public schools in Greater Sydney and beyond.

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Pulse Alive provides performance opportunities for students of all abilities from Primary school to Year 12.

Cambridge Gardens Public School had student participation in the categories of massed dance, First Nations dance ensemble and the massed choir.

Congratulations to the following students for their efforts in giving up recesses and lunch times for practices and getting up early for massed performance rehearsals. A big thank you to parents of these students for their support and organisation to allow their child to be part of Pulse. A thank you to the teachers that supported, practised and gave up a lot of personal time to allow students to experience this wonderful opportunity, Mrs Jacqui Thompson, Mr Matthew Burke, Mrs Laura Williams, Ms Kelly Winters and Mrs Rose

Pulse Massed Choir:

Kathleen Hill Nutrition Year 3

Maisy Walker Nutrition Year 3

Elijah Tuivanuavou Vitality Year 4

Edrik Estacio Durability Year 4

Lucas Garrard Durability Year 4

Natasia Robinson Durability Year 4

Hannah Zammit Durability Year 4

Kyra Sutton Thrive Year 5

Dexter Mahoney Willpower Year 5

Aroha Leach Kalium Year 6

Isabella Ramirez-Saw Tranquility Year 6

Mary Paghubasan Tranquility Year 6

Connor Taggart Thrive Year 5

Holly Zammit Kalium Year 6

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Pulse First Nations Dance Group

Nevaeh Dunn Durability Year 4

Khe-Sanh Riley Durability Year 4

Florence Garland Kalium Year 5

Lilly McLean Thrive Year 5

Charlie Pickett Willpower Year 5

Hannah Garrard Willpower Year 6

Emily Rogers Tranquility Year 6

Laloua Sarader Nutricion Year 3

Parker McLean Workout Year 3

Pulse Massed Dance Group: Dancing in The Street

Olivia Wilkinson Kalium Year 6

McKinley Rigelsford Kalium Year 5

Rhema Agianaku Kalium Year 6

Erika Dickie-Wiseman Kalium Year 6

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Paityn Cardozo Kalium Year 6

Maya Christie Thrive Year 5

Tia Wheelwright Thrive Year 5

Roxy Ivimey Tranquility Year 6

Harper Leabeater Willpower Year 5

Mikayla Iddles Willpower Year 6

Parnika Aanugu Thrive Year 5

Ivy Vella Thrive Year 5

Emma Whitwell Thrive Year 5

Calliah Burnell Willpower Year 5

Katrina Pearce Willpower Year 6

