

## College Notes

December 2009

### Staff News

The following members of staff joined the College over the course of this term or take up office in January 2010:

Miss Adele Murdock has been appointed to the position of Teacher of Geography (Full time temporary – Maternity Cover). She is a graduate of the University of Leeds, BA Joint Hons in Geography and History, PGCE from University of Bath. Previously Miss Murdock taught at an independent school, Claires Court, Maidenhead. Beyond the classroom, Miss Murdock is an athletics coach and, recently, she completed the London marathon.

Mrs Jennifer Coulter has been appointed to the position of Teacher of History/Politics (Full-time temporary – Maternity Cover). She is a graduate of the University of Glasgow, BA Hons in History, PGCE from the University of Strathclyde. Previously she has worked at St. Malachy's College, Belfast. Mrs Coulter will also seek to contribute to the music and drama within the College.

Mr Peter Blease was appointed Learning Support Classroom Assistant; he is a recent graduate of Queen's University, Belfast.

Dr Stephen Walker has been appointed as temporary teacher of Biology to cover Dr Breen's maternity leave. Dr Walker is a graduate of the University of Stirling, PGCE from the University of Kent, PhD in Molecular Ecology from QUB and is, presently, a Research Fellow at QUB. To the Total Curriculum he brings experience as a former Officer in the Royal Navy, and holds a Joint Services Mountain Leaders' qualification with experience of DoE Bronze and Silver qualifications.

Mrs Margaret Debbadi, Mrs Catherine Irwin, Mrs Fran Mottashaw and Dr Jenny Breen are on maternity leave.

### Internal Teaching staff appointments

Over the course of the term the following appointments have been made:

Mr Gareth Fry -	Acting Housemaster of Davis's
Mr Stephen Collier -	Acting Head of Year 13 (from January 2010)
Mr Colin Farr -	Games Administrator

Mr Mark McKee -	Acting Head of Year 9 (from January 2010) Literacy Co-Ordinator
Mr Chris McIvor -	Acting Examinations Officer (from January 2010)
Mr Fransuer Mukula -	Acting Head of Price's (from January 2010)
Mrs Victoria Reading -	Acting Numeracy Co-Ordinator
Dr Stephen Reid -	Acting Head of Year 13 (from January 2010)
Miss Wendy Pollock -	Boarding Mistress in School House (from January 2010)
Mrs Jan Hempstead -	Acting Head of Politics Department
Mr Andrew Millen -	Assistant Head of Careers
Ms Sonia Johnson -	Learning Support Assistant

### GAP Students

Our GAP students, George Guest, Bryn Morgans, Jono Rea and Tye Hamblin, from the New World have brightened our existence and contributed positively, in all manner of ways, to the College. They leave Campbell with our good wishes to take up places as under-graduates; firm friendships have been forged.

In the New Year we welcome three new GAP students: Will Rees (St Peter's Collegiate School, Adelaide), Bradley Adams (Lindisfarne College, New Zealand) and Jordan Harrison (St Edmund's College, Canberra). In March they will be joined by Jack Lynch, who hails from Scotch College, Melbourne.

### Marriages

In recent months a number of staff took the opportunity to become happily wed: we offer our congratulations to Mrs Lynsey Brown (nee Anderson), Mr Mark Cousins, Mr Gareth Fry, Mrs Jenna Graham (nee Cousins) Mr Andrew Millen and Mrs Leah Wilson (nee Boal).

### Births

During the course of the term Mr Johnny Cupitt welcomed a daughter, Eva; Mrs Claire Woods rejoiced at the arrival of Charlotte; Ms Eileen Mulhern welcomed a son, Gabriel; Mrs Margaret Debbadi a son, Alexander; and Mrs Catherine Irwin a son, Charlie.

### Parents' Consultations

These will take place as follows in the, now customary, 4.00 to 6.00 pm format:

Years 13 and 14	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2010
Year 12	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February
Year 10	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 11	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 9	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April

## Sixth Form Entrance

We take this seasonal opportunity, as the second progress card reaches parents and pupils, to articulate the Sixth Form Admissions Criteria as posted on our website, and ratified by the BELB, so that there may be no confusion when the results emerge in August 2010; some students may choose to refine their performance in the New Year with the benefit of both progress cards and entrance criteria to consider.

*Pupils wishing to re-enter or join Campbell College at Sixth Form (Year 13) will require a minimum of five passes at GCSE (A-C grades) and are strongly recommended to have at least a C grade GCSE in English and Mathematics. Entry into the Sixth Form is also subject to the applicant having a good disciplinary record, either, from within Campbell, or, from a previous school, and having strong supportive references.*

## Department of Education – Public Consultation

The policy proposals, as contained in the consultation document entitled: 'Every School A Good School: The Way Forward for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Inclusion', have been undergoing a period of public consultation since 10th August 2009. In order to ensure that parents are aware of this, and the fact that the period of consultation has been extended to 31st January 2010, the Department of Education has asked that we include a reference to the consultation in our communication with parents.

## Premises

A sizeable part of the main school planned summer works for 2009 was designed and built by our in-house maintenance team rather than employ outside contractors. The conversion of the Barnes back corridor to accommodate an extra six boarding pupils was successfully completed to a high standard. Further work to School House included:

- The conversion and refurbishment of the Master's bedroom to include an en suite shower and bathroom.
- The new Matron's Sick-bay has been re-located into the refurbished conservatory to include a separate rest room.
- A new games room created in what was the old Master's bath and shower room including a new doorway entrance through from the main corridor.
- The original sick bay rest room has been converted into the new Master's Lounge with sink and coffee making facilities.
- In Junior Boarding the original telephone room has been converted into an additional bedroom with a new telephone area built into the lounge.
- The original games room has now been converted into two bedrooms accommodating three extra beds whilst games are being accommodated at the back of the sixth form centre (evenings).
- Most rooms within Junior Boarding have been repainted.

Outside the Boarding department work was also completed in other areas of the College:

- The old supervised study at the top of the stone stairway leading from the central entrance to the College has now been refurbished into two offices, a teaching foyer and a new classroom for the Learning Support Department.
- H10 classroom in Central Hall was cleared and new computer benches have been fashioned to provide a wholesome teaching environment.
- One large Gap Student room to the rear of the College was converted and refurbished into two modest rooms to accommodate a fourth Gap Student appointment.
- The Campbell sports complex has been fitted with a new frosted glass entrance; the paving and grass areas to the front of this complex have been lifted and relayed to make a level and safer area.
- The pool itself has been emptied, cleaned, painted and cured whilst the pool filters have been emptied of their tonnes of sand and gravel and re-filled with new provision. In addition, we will have two computerised self dosing pool chemical systems installed to regulate the hygiene and cleanliness of the water.

Increased demand for places in Junior School led to the creation of two additional classrooms; these have been built to the rear of the main Junior School building. The main classrooms within Junior School were also repainted.

Prior to the summer holiday break, assisted by the noble efforts of the Duke of Edinburgh boys, a pathway was forged through the undergrowth around Netherleigh Lake. A wood chip path was created to lead down from the back of Fox's Field to the lake area and much of the clinging and aged ivy was cut back from our august trees. Further work on constructing pathways and lake clearance is planned with the assistance of the Duke of Edinburgh boys throughout the year. In time, Campbell will be in a position to join the Eco-Schools organisation and thus benefit from greater awareness of the environment.

### Sixth Form Car Park

As the academic year unfolds more pupils acquire their driving licence and spaces allotted within the Sixth Form Car Park become more treasured. I hold to my familiar request that parents use the Middle School Car Park as the agreed area to pick up, set down or await the arrival of your sons. The Sixth Form Car Park is solely the preserve of boys in the College and I urge all parents to respect this privilege granted only to deserving pupils.

### Code of Conduct for Spectators

The Irish Rugby Football Union publishes a *Code of Conduct for Parents* and enclosed within this documentation you will find an adapted version that the College has agreed. I offer this document not just to encourage appropriate conduct on the touchline but as support and protection to all within our community. Perhaps, it is some consolation that Campbell was not a part of the poor conduct that blighted a number of the Medallion Shield Competition matches last season; however, no school may be complacent and every parent has a responsibility to set an appropriate example to the youth of today.

### Security of Property Policy

I commend to your attention the College's policy on the security of property. The policy seeks to explain the College's position on this matter and to offer advice on good practice; I would be grateful if you would consider this important document.

### The Old Campbellian Society

Dr David Boyle will stand down as OC President at the AGM on Monday 25th January having led the Society across a successful year; in 2010 Mr Brian Turtle will take up office and his first official event as the President will be at the Annual Dinner on the 12th of February.

The revamped website has been extremely popular and you will be able to find details Old Campbellian events, details of how to join the Sports Club, which is open to all parents, news of what members have been up to, access to the online shop and much more. Please pay a visit - [www.oldcampbellians.co.uk](http://www.oldcampbellians.co.uk) . Members with email accounts should also receive the monthly eNews that attempts to keep Old Campbellians up-to-date with news and events.

### New Year's Resolution

The School Day begins at 8.40am and all boys are expected to honour their first commitments with staff at this time. If you find that this set time is more honoured in the breach than the observance by your son I would ask for a fresh beginning in the New Year. Once lateness becomes institutionalised in a school other vices follow hard upon the heels. Please do all that you reasonably can to get your son to school, shining bright and full of wonder, by 8.40am.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year,

Jay Piggot