

College Notes

December 2011

Staff News

Dr Jenny Breen has returned from maternity leave; Dr Stephen Walker, in turn, will continue as temporary teacher of Biology to cover the ongoing maternity leave of Mrs Murphy. Dr Walker is already well known to the College and he will continue to assist with CCF and Duke of Edinburgh activities.

Miss Kyla O'Neill, who has been covering Mrs Haughian's maternity leave, has reached the end of her time at CCB. We are grateful to Miss O'Neill for her sterling contribution to the teaching of Art at CCB and her work as Tutor in Dobbin's House.

Mr David Dougherty departed before the end of term; he has done fine service in the Biology Department and the boys have responded effectively to his assured presence. David's considerable contribution to rugby at CCB is gratefully acknowledged.

Mrs Samantha Woolley, Boarding House Assistant, left School House to take up a post in Social Services; subsequently, Miss Patricia Monroe has been appointed to the position. Miss Monroe is a former pupil of Strathearn School and a graduate of QUB, she holds a BSc in Social Work. Her most recent employment was as a social worker in the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children offering support to parents, carers and children on admission to hospital.

Neil Alcorn, a former pupil of the College and, currently, a Classroom Assistant for a boy in Year 9 joins the School House team in a shared role as Boarding Master.

Mrs Winnie Morgan joins the College's administration team as Help Desk Operator and to assist in the School Shop.

GAP Students

Our 2011 GAP students, Andrew Mitchelmore, Al Reeves, Joe Taylor and Jim Young 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 as they take up places as undergraduates in their home lands.

In the New Year we welcome four new Gappies: Chris Adgo (Rathkeale College, New Zealand), Tony Crawford (Scotch College, Victoria), Brett Lennox (Kinross Wolaroi School, New South Wales) and Ollie Morrison (Lindisfarne College, New Zealand).

Parents' Consultations

The consultations will follow the usual form, 4.00 to 6.00 pm, on the following dates:

Years 13 and 14	Thursday 12 th January 2012
Year 12	Wednesday 8 th February
Year 10	Tuesday 20 th March
Year 11	Monday 26 th March
Year 9	Wednesday 11 th 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 GCSE results emerge in August 2012; 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 and strong supportive references, either, from within Campbell, or, from a previous school.

Personal Electronic Equipment Policy

The rapid advances in new technologies and the potential they have to lead boys into errant behaviour indicate that a timely reminder of a number of the important points from the policy may be apposite:

- It is contrary to the school policy for any use to be made of electronic or photographic images of any person/s connected to the School which are offensive or to make any statements which might bring the School into disrepute, or which are derogatory about pupils or members of Staff past or present. Any such contraventions may be viewed as gross misconduct.
- Possession of such imagery, whether downloaded by a pupil or someone else, will be regarded as a serious offence and may be viewed as gross misconduct.
- If any pupil is found to have on a website or mobile phone or in a chat room any material which is objectionable or against the Law this may be viewed as gross misconduct.

Pupils are, therefore, strongly advised:

- to ensure that nothing which they have on mobile phones, chat rooms, websites, blogs or any other medium could lead to this situation arising
- to delete any such material, photographs or language which may be viewed as crude, offensive or vulgar, which exists and may have been downloaded accidentally

- to ensure that any unacceptable pictures of themselves or those taken of others, or material which brings discredit or disrepute upon the school, or which could damage the School's or a teacher's reputation in any way, (including any comments about teachers or other pupils without their express prior knowledge and consent), should be urgently deleted from websites, mobile phones or any other electronic equipment
- that their mobile phones are never used, without prior permission, to take photographs in school.

Premises

Major works undertaken over the Summer included:

Junior School: new security fence and gates erected for Prep 1.

Senior Boarding: four new bedroom conversions and a new shower area.

Amenities: new ladies toilets and refurbished male toilets within the main building.

Fencing: work continued over the summer holidays to secure the perimeter along the Castlehill Road and the back of the Cabin Hill site.

Cabin Hill building: in keeping with the requirements of a listed building, major works were undertaken to maintain the integrity.

Residential Lettings: included Christians in Sport, the Craigmount Pipe Band, LIs Hui School from Hong Kong, an American CS Lewis Tour group.

CCB Summer Scheme: in the inaugural year numbers that attended the Scheme exceeded expectation and the new in-house venture proved to be most successful.

Sixth Form Car Park and Car Usage

As the academic year unfolds more pupils acquire their driving licence and spaces allotted within the Sixth Form Car Park become more treasured. We hold to our 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 all parents are urged to respect this privilege granted only to deserving pupils.

On a related note, parents and pupils are reminded that only boys with exceptional permission may use their cars to leave the school grounds during the course of the school day.

Code of Conduct for Spectators

The Irish Rugby Football Union publishes a *Code of Conduct for Parents* and enclosed within this mailing you will find an adapted version that the College has agreed.

As we approach another Medallion Shield, Schools' Cup and Burney Cup season the College offers this document not just to encourage appropriate conduct on the touchline but also as support and protection to all within our community.

The Old Campbellian Society

Mr Kelly Wilson will stand down as OC President at the AGM on Monday 30th January having led the Society in his own ineffable style across a most successful year. In 2012, Mr John Knox will take up office, his first official event as President will be at the Annual Dinner on Friday 10th February.

Details of Old Campbellian events, instruction on how to join the Sports Club that is open to all parents, news of what members have been attempting, and access to the online shop may be found at www.oldercampbellians.co.uk . Members with email accounts may also receive the monthly eNews that endeavours to keep Old Campbellians up-to-date with news and events.

Parentmail

A small number of families have still to sign up to ParentMail; you are urged, please, to complete the registration form with both mobile numbers and email addresses. To attempt to exist outside the reach of ParentMail merely results in missing out on email and text reminders for events and important mailings; the college will also use this service to communicate with parents in the event of school having to close due to inclement weather.

Items for collection from Front of House

In the event that your son may leave something at home which he will need during the school day, items may be left in Front of House for collection. Unfortunately, due to the number in circulation, it is not possible to deliver items to boys.

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. The College has in place a measured system of sanctions to address the issue as 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 by 8.40am.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year,

Jay Piggot