

What, When & Why

@ Mitcham Girls High School

No. 1, Thursday 28 January, Term 1, 2010

From the Principal...

Dear Parents / Caregivers,
Welcome to the 2010 school year. In particular we welcome to the Mitcham community the families of the Year 8 students and all other families who have joined us this year for the first time. I am confident that Mitcham will provide the best possible environment for your daughter.

We welcome the newly appointed teachers and support staff:

Mrs J Stewart	Administration
Mrs D Oughton	Administration
Ms Z Ozolins	Coordinator of English and Literacy
Mr M Finos	Health and PE
Mr M Peters	Technology, Music
Ms Bianca Barbon	Dance, Health
Mr A Bambrough	Mathematics, SOSE
Mr P Lambert	Mathematics
Ms A Watters	Drama, English, SOSE
Ms J Gladys	English, SOSE
Ms H Hewitt	English
Dr P Henschke	Science
Ms Helen Lyytikainen	Home Ec
Ms Sue Logue	Science

The year has started extremely well for us despite the fact that the staffing exercise proved to be more challenging than in past years. Ms Tranter, Mr Sims, Mr Kerr and the Year Level Managers worked around the clock to ensure we were able to start teaching on day one. The support given by all staff has also been outstanding.

We are all certainly looking forward to another challenging but exciting year ahead. Work on the Science Laboratories has begun and by semester two our students will enjoy excellent facilities.

We will also press on with the Council of International Schools (CIS) Accreditation process. A self review process which will highlight the areas of excellence and the areas in which we need to improve. To begin this process, last year we sought the opinions of parents, caregivers, staff and students on all facets of school life. Your opinions, therefore, will form the starting point of the self studies. For this process we have also reviewed our Statement of Purpose, which appears on page 3 of the newsletter.

We congratulate the 2009 Year 12 students for their excellent results:

16.8% of all grades were As
35.6% of all grades were Bs
29.7% of all grades were Cs
11.8% of all grades were Ds
6 % of all grades were Es

83% of students gained entry to a tertiary institution in the first round of offers. Students chose to study in a variety of fields - for example, health services, engineering, avionics, mineral geoscience, behavioural science, psychology, nutrition, architecture, law, ecotourism, marketing and education.

Detailed information will be provided in the Annual Report which will be presented at the AGM on Monday 1 March at 7.00 pm. Parents are encouraged to attend and perhaps think about serving on Governing Council. It is a great way to learn everything you need to know about the school and to help make this school even better.

Other activities we have planned in the first few weeks of school include:

- Year 8 Parent Evening to be held on Monday 1 February, 5.30-6.30 pm
- Year 8 camp, starting Monday 8 February. More information will be sent home via your daughters.
- Stage 1 SACE Information Night to be held on Wednesday 3 February, 6-7pm
- Swimming Carnival, Wednesday 17 February
- **ThinkUKnow Internet Safety Session, Wednesday 24 February at 7.00 pm.**

Please read the information about the safety session over the page. I urge as many parents to attend this workshop as it will be very informative and thought provoking.

I look forward to working with you once again.

Regards,
Antoinette Jones

Mitcham Girls High School

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ThinkUKnow Internet Safety Session

ThinkUKnow is an internet safety initiative which aims to raise awareness of the issues which young people face online and whilst using mobile phones. It is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Microsoft Australia.

This presentation will cover topics such as how young people are using technology to have fun, online grooming, cyber-bullying, inappropriate content and e-security.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about how young people **have fun** online, how you can help them to **stay in control** on the net, and how to **report** a problem.

For more information, you can visit the ThinkUKnow Australia website at www.thinkuknow.org.au or contact Anne Carpenter.

We look forward to seeing you all at the presentation.

If you do intend to come along, please complete the reply slip and ask your daughter to give it to her care group teacher.

Anne Carpenter

Diary Dates – Term 1

February	Tuesday 2	SACE Day Canteen Committee Mtg 2.15pm
	Wednesday 3	Stage 1 SACE Information Night, 6pm - 7pm in PAC
	Monday 8 – Friday 12	Year 8 camps
	Monday 8	Governing Council 7.00pm
	Thursday 11	Uniform Meeting 1.30pm
	Tuesday 16	Physical Resources 9.00am
	Wednesday 17	Swimming Carnival
	Wednesday 24	ThinkUKnow 7.00pm in PAC
	Thursday 25	Interschool Swimming Carnival
March	Monday 1 – Wednesday 3	Year 12 Aquatics
	Tuesday 9	International Women's Day
	Monday 15	Governing Council 7.00pm (training)
	Tuesday 23	Physical Resources Mtg 9.00am
	Friday 26	Sports Day
	Tuesday 30	Year 8 Immunisations
	Wednesday 31	Year 10 Risky Business
April	Thursday 1	End of Term 1 – Reports distributed. Dismissal 3.15pm

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Think U Know Internet Safety Session, Wednesday 24

Please return this slip to your Care Group Teacher

Student Name: _____ Care Group: _____

I will be attending the Think U Know Internet Safety Session

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Parent / Guardian signature: _____



Mitcham Girls High School STATEMENT OF PURPOSE 2010 - 2015

Our Vision

Mitcham Girls High School is a professional, progressive learning community dedicated to providing outstanding educational opportunities for girls.

Mitcham Girls High School tries to meet the needs of all students and to help them attain their potential so that they may make a positive contribution to the world.

Our Principles

At MGHS we value and promote:

1. respect
2. positive working relationships
3. diversity
4. individuality
5. fairness
6. excellence
7. world citizenship

Our Goals¹

Our students will be

1. Successful learners	2. Confident individuals	3. Active, responsible and informed global and local citizens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop their capacity to learn and take an increasingly active role in their own learning • are able to solve problems in creative and innovative ways • are able to think deeply and logically • have the essential skills in literacy, numeracy and science • are creative and productive users of technology, especially ICT • are able to plan and work independently and in teams • are able to make sense of their world and consider how things may have become the way they are • are motivated to reach their full potential and are on a pathway towards continued success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a sense of self-worth, self-awareness and personal identity that enables them to manage their emotional, mental, spiritual and physical well-being • have a sense of optimism about their lives and the future • develop values such as honesty, resilience, empathy and respect for others • have the confidence and capability to explore and pursue any future options • relate well to others • embrace opportunities, make rational and informed decisions about their own lives and accept responsibility for their own actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate Australia's social, cultural, linguistic and religious diversity • have an understanding of Australia's system of government, history and culture • acknowledge the value of Indigenous cultures and appreciate the importance of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians • are committed to democracy, equity and justice, and are able to participate in civic life • are internationally minded and able to relate to and communicate across cultures, especially the cultures and countries of Asia • balance the interests of self, the community and the sustainability of the planet

¹ Adopted from *National Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*, Dec 2008