Along with many new Cedar families, we have also welcomed a number of new teachers to the High School and Primary School, who are pictured on page 2 of this newsletter. Meeting new people and making new friends can sometimes be a daunting task, so now is a good time to talk to your children about developing their social skills and manners.

Good Manners - A Lost Art?

Young people often have a “heads-down” focus on their electronic devices, so it can be hard for them to learn to interact appropriately with other people. They’re more comfortable texting or sending an e-mail to communicate than offering a firm handshake or a warm smile.

Our purpose at Cedar is to help students Discover Jesus, Display Love and to Develop Self. Part of Displaying Love and Developing Self is preparing students for the workplace and personal relationships, and many High School students may already have a part-time job where they interact with customers at places such as McDonalds or Woolworths. The acronym S.P.E.C.I.A.L. is a helpful way of remembering what to do.

• Shake hands – a firm, appropriate grip;
• Posture – standing up straight, shoulders back, conveying confidence and awareness;
• Eye contact – looking the other person in the eye during the entire interaction;
• Charm – a smile, head nod, laugh;
• Introduce yourself – saying, “Hi, I’m …..” gets the ball rolling;
• Ask a question – “What brings you here?” or “Don’t you hate this weather?” starts a conversation and shows interest in the other person;
• Lean in and listen – without invading the person’s space, getting a little closer signals engagement and helps you listen and respond appropriately.

These skills need practice before they become natural. It’s good to start at an early age learning how to introduce yourself, start a conversation, look people in the eye, answer politely and mingle in a crowd. These are skills that, once mastered, students will use for their entire life.

How can parents help?

• Say good morning to your kids every morning and expect them to do the same to you.
• Help them learn how to shake hands naturally.
• Expect your kids to stand and greet visitors and look after them by offering a seat or refreshments.
• Insist on polite interactions at the meal table and in family groups (no devices at the dinner table).
• Use literature, current events and TV programmes to help your kids develop genuine curiosity about other people or world events.

Developing these skills and making new friends is a great way to start 2017.

Mr Peter Thomson
Principal
Public Holidays - Term 1
Monday 13 March - Adelaide Cup
Friday 14 April - Good Friday

2017 Term Dates
Please note the term dates for 2017 shown below. In 2017, our staff will again attend the Christian Schools Australia State Conference, which is held every second year, on the first two days of Term 3.

Term 1, 2017 - Tue 31 Jan - Thu 13 April
Term 2, 2017 - Tue 2 May - Fri 30 June
(Please note: We will continue to have a 3 week break between Terms 2 & 3)
Term 3, 2017 - Wed 26 July - Fri 29 Sept
Term 4, 2017 - Tue 17 Oct - Thu 14 Dec

High School Sports Day Change of Date
Please note that the date of the High School Sports Day has changed since the publication of the Term Planner. High School Sports Day will now be held on Friday March 10, with a backup day of Thursday March 16, if required.

New Teaching Staff
Introducing our new teachers for 2017

Nichole Tiller
Senior School Co-ordinator

Steve Blucher
IPP, Computing, Maths Business & Enterprise

Mitch Clisby
Design & Technology

Anna Briggs
High School Drama

Justine Gallasch
Reception teacher

Miriam Field
High School CLIC

2017 Dates & Information
If you need to check out 2017 school dates, look for a newsletter, check on uniform requirements or would like to find out more about an upcoming event, it’s available at the click of a mouse or tap of a phone, on the Cedar College website.

Year 12 Success
We’ve included a special insert within this newsletter detailing the success of our 2016 Year 12 students.

With the recent release of second-round University offers, 94% of Cedar College students have received their first preference tertiary course - which is an excellent result. Read more in the enclosed brochure.

School Banking 2017
NOTE: School Banking day is now Thursday
Every year the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and in 2017, students will join the new-look Dollarmites as Future Savers, making their way towards the Savings Hover Park – a fantastic playground up in the clouds of a hi-tech metropolis.

School Banking will continue to reward children who demonstrate regular savings behaviour, and this year we’re introducing an exciting new range of reward items. Two are released every term, and available in Term 1 are the Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers. Your child can redeem one of these reward items, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2017 School Banking program information pack from the Front Office or visit: Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.
**Primary School Joins Together**

Thursday is a very special day of the week for the Primary School. Each Thursday, the entire Primary School gathers together to help students Discover Jesus, Display Love and Develop Self.

To help students **Discover Jesus**, every second Thursday (during the odd numbered weeks of term) is Chapel time. This time is specifically designed for classes to share what they have learnt from the Bible, sing songs of thankfulness to God, and often hear from Primary School Chaplain, Pastor Matthew Cook. Pastor Matt, as he is known to the students, spoke about the song which the students enjoy singing “Never Be Shaken”, which is a reminder that we can always place our firm trust and faith in God.

The Primary School also has the opportunity to **Display Love** each Thursday, by bringing along a small amount of money to give to the three sponsor children that the Primary School supports. Cedar students in Reception to Year 6 sponsor Chiku Chacha in Tanzania, Beilotla in India and Poom in Thailand, through Compassion Australia. By displaying God’s love and giving just a few coins each week, the Primary School children have been able to change the lives of these three children and their families.

The Thursdays of the even numbered weeks of term are the opportunity for students to **Develop Self**, as they participate in Assembly times through speaking, singing, leading and participating. Each fortnight awards are presented to students who have shown extra effort in school work, behaviour or improvement, to encourage them to continually develop themselves as young people.

Parents/caregivers and friends are welcome to attend both the Assembly and Chapel times on Thursdays from 12:35pm until 1:10pm in the Main Auditorium. Seating for parents and guests is provided at the back of the Auditorium, as students sit with their classes and occupy the majority of the Auditorium.

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**Cedar AFL Footy**

Last year we launched Cedar Footy (AFL) with our first Year 2/3 team. The team did amazingly well and it was very rewarding and fun for all involved. This year we would like to seek interest to continue our Year 2/3 team and begin both a Year 4/5 team and a Year 6/7 team to create a great footy pathway through the Primary School. It all starts in Term 2 with one training per week and a Saturday morning game. The season is 11 games finishing early in Term 3. All teams will go ahead if we have enough numbers.

If your son or daughter is interested in playing AFL footy for Cedar this year, **please register an expression of interest with our Sports Co-ordinator, Mr Josh Fernihough**, through the Front Office on 8261 3377.

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**Cedar Care**

At Cedar, we’re very passionate about developing the whole child. We want to see your young person excel academically but we also want to grow their character, self-worth and trust in God. Life doesn’t happen in a vacuum. Challenges come, often when you least expect them and that’s where Cedar Care comes in.

We’re a team of people passionate about helping others navigate the issues that arise in life. Our team has many years of counselling experience and continues to update our knowledge in biblical based counselling and professional development.

A student counsellor is available daily from 8:30am to 4pm. We’re located in the red brick building, the heart of Cedar. If you or your young person needs to speak with someone, you can: phone the school office, email our team or drop in to the school office and ask to speak directly to us.

**We’re here to partner with students and their families.**

For more information on specific issues please contact us or see the Cedar College website.

**Mrs Kristen Jettner**
Student Counsellor

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**Here’s our Cedar Care team:**

- **Kristen Jettner**  
  Student Counsellor
- **Melissa Rogers**  
  Student Counsellor
- **Jan Green**  
  Student Counsellor
- **Jeremy Wright**  
  High School Chaplain
- **Matthew Cook**  
  High School Chaplain

Each fortnight, Mrs Kristen Jettner will present a brief thought to encourage families in the newsletter - look out for “The Fridge Magnet” in each issue!

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**The Fridge Magnet - Week 2**

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Celebrating Academic Success

The High School Academic Chapel, held in Week 2 of Term 1, celebrated the Academic successes of last year’s graduating Year 12 class. With SACE results and University offers now available, the High School was updated on the achievements of the previous year, which included a highest ATAR of 97.7 and three SACE Merit Awards.

A group of 12 graduates (pictured below) were able to return to Cedar for this special Chapel and receive acknowledgment of their efforts. Their visit also served as inspiration to the current Year 12s, who are already gearing up for the big year ahead. Cedar College Dux, Hannah Bengtson, was interviewed by Year 12 Co-ordinator, Mr Reg Thompson, who asked her for the secret of her success. Hannah, who set herself the goal of becoming Dux at the beginning of Year 12, was able to give two tips: putting her faith and trust in God when things were going rough as well as when they were going well; and having a firm plan in place for study, homework and school work, in order to maximise her efforts. Runner-Up Dux, Lesen Lawry, who was less than one point behind Hannah, echoed her advice. Lesen made sure that she utilised her Study Hall and homework times well, ensuring that she left some time for relaxation away from the books over the weekend.

Also recognised at the Academic Chapel were 13 of Cedar’s current Year 12 students (pictured below, bottom right), who achieved A grades for their Research Project - a compulsory part of the SACE. With already excellent results, we look forward to the continued successes of the 2017 Year 12s, and also wish the Class of 2016 every success, as many of them begin their tertiary studies in a few weeks time.

Denim Donations Needed

As part of the Year 8 Textiles course, students focus on sustainability and the recycling and re-purposing of old clothes. Using this knowledge they design and create a pencil case made out of recycled denim. We are looking for any old denim jeans, skirts or jackets that you no longer wear and would like to donate to be made into these much loved pencil cases. If you are able to help, please send your old denim (washed) to the High School Office, for the Textiles department, thank you.

Miss Caitlin Sampson
High School Teacher

Support Structures @Cedar

Middle School Coordinator, Mr David Webb, and student counsellor, Mrs Kristen Jettner, spoke about the support structures that are available to students and families at Cedar, during the High School Information Evening this week.

Along with our Cedar Care team (see page 3) a range of resources are available on our website under Family Information > Helping Teens.

Cedar Students Recognised

On Tuesday 7th February was a pleasure to witness our Stage 2 Merit Award recipients from 2016 receive their awards at Government House.

I was able to attend the Awards Ceremony, together with special guests Premier Jay Weatherill, Education Minister Dr Susan Close and the Governor of SA, the Honourable Hieu Van Le. These students, achieving this award for receiving a 20/20 for one of their subjects were Hannah Bengtson (Modern History), Lesen Lawry (Food & Hospitality) and Emily Hill (Research Project). This is an outstanding achievement, and we are very proud of these students. Special acknowledgement must go to Emily Hill, who achieved this as a Year 11 student, and she continues with us this year as she undertakes Year 12.

Mr Andrew Lock
Head of High School