



GIRLS' TALK

Calgary
Girls' School

Volume 7 Issue 4

January 2010

MESSAGE FROM CGS STAFF

The generosity of CGS families was once more evident with the Christmas hampers that were compiled by each classroom. This year's focus on providing food provided by many classrooms with a chance to discuss basic needs and how it is that we might support each other in meeting those needs. Thank you to all families who participated. Special thanks to the hamper drivers who once again battled slippery roads and congestion in delivering the hampers to the distribution centre.

Congratulations to choir, band and dance students for beautiful performances at the recent Winter Celebrations. The quality of your performances left everyone impressed with the talent and poise that you display. The CGS staff would like to offer our gratitude to all parents who helped "Feed the Teachers" during the recent Parent Teacher Conferences. Your culinary talents and donations of delicious food were very much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

The staff of CGS would like to wish all families a relaxing and restful break. We thank you for your ongoing support as well as for the gift of working with your daughters. They bring joy into our lives and are the reason we continue to do this work. Best wishes for joy and all that the season has to offer.

Uniform Reminder

Please remember that the Winter Break is an opportunity to check your daughter's uniform to ensure that it is in good shape.

The following list might be helpful.

- Dry cleaning of blazers
- Check that kilts are at an appropriate length (girls grow!) with hems that are not "drooping"
- Check for stains and missing buttons on shirts and cardigans
- Laundering of gym strip
- Dress shoes that are black with a solid "chunky" heel (not kitten heels) no higher than 1 ½ inches
- Replacement of ties, socks that slide down, tights with holes, etc

Please remember that CGS has a "no logo policy" so the only hoodies that are acceptable wear inside and outside are those with the CGS logo.

Thank you for your help in ensuring that our girls look polished and professional at all times.

Career Fair 2009

Further in this newsletter is a description of the Career Fair that grade 8 and 9 students recently attended. What a wonderful opportunity for our girls! Special thanks to Pam Boytinck who lead a phenomenal group of parents in conceptualizing and organizing the day. It was an inspirational and enjoyable day for students, staff and speakers. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

Courteous Driving

Parents who drive their daughters to and from school are reminded that CGS students are guests in the communities of Lakeview and Bel Aire. Please ensure that you are using caution and courtesy when driving through the neighborhood.

CELL PHONE POLICY

The CGS Board of Directors recently passed the following cell phone policy. It is important that all CGS families be aware of the policy and take note of the final paragraph. The policy is as follows:

Policy 912

Approved: Dec. 9, 2009

Effective Date: Dec. 9, 2009

Review Date: Dec. 9, 2009

CALGARY GIRLS' SCHOOL

POLICY: 912 CELL PHONE

Rationale

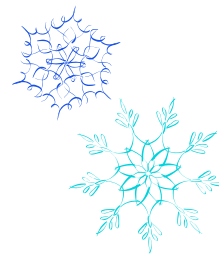
While the use of technology is pervasive, it is important that technology be used in an appropriate manner in the right environment. Cell phones do not form part of the necessary learning tools at CGS and are often disruptive to the learning environment.

Policy

All cell phones will be turned off after 8:15 a.m, and stay off for the duration of the school day while on school property or at school-sanctioned events. Cell phones will remain off during extracurricular activities. Cell phones are to be kept in the student back pack.

CGS recognizes that it is sometimes important for parents to reach students. Accordingly, if parents need to pass on messages to a student, a phone call can be made to the school office who will ensure that the student receives the message. If students need to contact their parents during the day, they are to ask their teacher for permission to use the phone in the main office.

Any violation of this policy will result in the cell phone being confiscated and held in the school office. **The cell phone will only be returned to the student's parent or legal guardian.**



INFORMATION FOR GRADE 9 PARENTS

International Baccalaureate Applications (CBE Schools)

All I. B. Applications were to be into Ms. Brown by December 17th so that they can be forwarded to the homeroom teachers who will complete the confidential recommendation portion of the application.

The completed package must arrive at the high school by January 15th. Failure to meet this deadline may result in the student's IB application not being considered.

International Baccalaureate Applications (Calgary Catholic Schools)

These applications will be handed out at the Open Houses and Parent Information sessions at the individual high schools. Dates for submission will be provided at the time.

High School Registration (CBE Schools)

The individual high schools will forward me copies of the registration packages and the students will work on the forms with me at CGS. They will then take them home for parent input, approval and signatures. I will then forward them to the individual high schools by mid-March.

High School Registration (Calgary Catholic Schools)

Parents must contact the appropriate high school as designated by the student's address. These designations are available on the Calgary Separate School District's website. You will then be given an individual appointment to go to the school to register your daughter for Grade 9.

Transfer Process (CBE Schools)

All students must register at their designated high schools. Should they wish to transfer to a different school within the CBE, they must pick up a “Transfer Request Form” at their designated high school and take it to the school they wish to attend. If their “preferred” school accepts them, their registration will be cancelled at the designated school and they will then register and select their courses at that school. (This information was provided to me by Western Canada High School).

Transfer Process (Calgary Catholic Schools)

Parents must contact their designated high school and meet with the administration there to request a transfer to a different catholic high school.

Vicki Brown

Grade 9 Counsellor

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CAREER FAIR 2009: A DAY OF EXPLORATION, INSPIRATION, AND REFLECTION

Grade eight and nine students at CGS has the opportunity to explore 11 different career clusters, meeting local women representing their fields of expertise. From pilots to surgeons, journalists to graphic designers, it was a day packed with presentations, questions and demonstrations.

The Opening Address was delivered Amanda Hunsley, a young woman who spoke at Women’s Eve two years ago. Amanda is an entrepreneur who has built a career and a successful business on her passion – dance. Closing remarks were provided by Alberta Minister of Justice, Alison Redford, an elected official, a lawyer, and a woman who has dedicated much of her career to Human Rights on the international stage. 23 other women with diverse backgrounds joined the girls for the day to sharing their experiences.

In addition to receiving a written profile on each speaker they saw, girls will also received a resource page with books and websites to assist in their education / career planning. They also receive a magazine with helpful information. We have selected two other magazines for them to receive later in the year. NOTE: there is a parent publication available through ALIS – a website under the Government of Alberta. www.alis.ca

The day would not have been possible without the support of many parents. Thank you for making this a special day for students, staff and speakers. Everyone appreciated the care and effort that went into the day. It is also important to note that the financial requirements for the day were generously covered by School Council.

Once all feedback is gathered a tentative plan may be created to hold a career fair every two years for grades 8 and 9, with the next one taking place in 2011.

Thank you,

The Career Fair Planning Committee



TOP MARKS

Top Marks will be at the Lakeview campus on December 17th, from 3:00 - 5:00 and are located across from the gym at the school. The representatives are there to fit and resize students for new garments, take exchanges and sell ties, head bands and socks.

Starting in January, Top Marks will be at the school every three weeks instead of every two. The date in January is Friday the 22 from 3:00 - 5:00.

Ties are also available from the office if one needs to be replaced right away. Please bring a cheque (payable to CGS) in the amount of \$16.80 or the exact amount in cash. Also located at the office, free of charge, are extra buttons for the blazers, kilt pins and summer dress belts.

UNIFORM CONSIGNMENT STORE

Because of space issues, the uniform consignment store is no longer able to operate out of the Lakeview basement. Please stay tuned as options for providing this service are being explored.



KARAOKE NIGHT

On Friday, November 27 a small but enthusiastic group participated in a Karaoke event at CGS - Lakeview. We were treated to performances by the Beatles, Avril Lavigne and Miley Cyrus, to name but a few. In spite of the cold weather and horrible driving conditions the girls managed to have some fun and as well as make a wonderful donation of juice boxes to the program "Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids". Thanks to all who contributed.

Thank you also to the many parents who volunteered!



A Big THANK YOU from Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids!

There are thousands of kids in Calgary who go hungry every day. Lack of proper nutrition leads to decreased concentration in school, poorer health, diminished cognitive development and difficulty interacting with peers.

Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids would like to thank Calgary Girls School for their generous support. Despite a nasty winter storm your school's Karaoke Night resulted in 36 dozen juice boxes being collected for use in our lunches.

We are delighted that the students and families of Calgary Girls School have joined the many hands and hearts that feed the children of our community each day. Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids believes that every person can make a difference by taking actions, large and small. Thank you for making local child hunger your problem.

For more information about our organization please visit our website.

www.brownbaggingit.org



Brown Bagging
for Calgary's Kids
Society

Healthy Kids. Healthy Minds.