How quickly has this third term flown by? It feels like it was only yesterday that we returned to school from the winter holidays, yet it is now 10 weeks later. The highlight of the term was the Canberra and Snowy Mountains trip for 21 of our senior secondary students and the city based excursions for those students that couldn’t attend.

The winter months brought with them terrible colds and influenza. Our school was hit very badly by the Brisbane bugs with both students and staff impacted throughout the term. On some days it was impossible to find replacement staff, however we managed to make each day work for the students. My hope is that the rain that fell heavily yesterday, will help clear the air and wash away the remnants of the bugs that have plagued us. The classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned during the spring holidays so that we have a positive and healthy start to Term 4.

One of the consequences of the flu season was reduced attendance. The worst day for attendance, was Monday 10th August, which was the Logan Show Holiday. On that day 34 students were absent. Across July and August there were 11 days where more than 20 students were away from school.

Being at school every day and on time is really important for all students to progress. However, when children are unwell they need to be home. Unexplained absences are of concern though, as there is a legal responsibility to inform the school as to why a student is away. The blue columns on the following attendance graph for Term 3 represent the number of unexplained absences on a particular day. Please contact the school or write in communication books the reason for a child being absent.

Date range: 13 July 2015 to 17 September 2015
Daily Absences Graph Calamvale Special School
Positive Learning Behaviour Update
This week the students across the school who had demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the term celebrated their achievement with an afternoon tea with the principal. The photo is of the secondary students enjoying their celebration. Well done to all of you!

Sports Day Change
The annual sports day schedule for Friday 18th September was postponed due to the wet weather the day before. The day has been rescheduled for Monday 12 October.

This year the students have been given house colours and points will be allotted to each house throughout the day.

The classes and colours are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sports Day Houses</th>
<th>Red Kangaroo</th>
<th>Blue Tongue Lizard</th>
<th>Green Crocodile</th>
<th>Yellow Tigers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EY1</td>
<td>EY2</td>
<td>EY3</td>
<td>EY4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EY6</td>
<td>M3</td>
<td>M2</td>
<td>EY5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M6</td>
<td>M7</td>
<td>M4</td>
<td>M1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JS5</td>
<td>JS4</td>
<td>M5</td>
<td>JS2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS2</td>
<td>SS3</td>
<td>JS1</td>
<td>JS3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assembly Awards
Award recipients for the last fortnight:
Congratulations to these students and to the others not listed who also received awards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1</td>
<td>Hardik</td>
<td>Great effort in completing maths place value tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sam</td>
<td>Great effort in thinking through maths problems in place value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Great effort in using his words to share information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M5</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Great effort for improving attempts to get on and off the bus independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaeden</td>
<td>Great trying for listening and following instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thai</td>
<td>Great progress with counting numbers and identifying beginning letters with the aid of concrete materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tiarna</td>
<td>Great improvement in completing tasks with diligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jonathan</td>
<td>Great progress in being persistent and working independently in all of the tasks given.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aaron</td>
<td>Great progress in recognising and writing numbers and values independently</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C News
Thank you to all who contributed to the fundraiser Linen Party hosted by Linda Hall. $2,300 worth of linen was sold giving P&C six prizes for the Christmas Raffle.

Date Claimer: Chappy's Tupperware Party to be held at school in the Hub from 9.45am on Thursday 22/10/15.

Next P&C Meeting:
The next meeting of the P&C Association will be held in the Hub on Wednesday 28th October, commencing at 9.15am

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY NDIS SYMPOSIA SERIES
MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER
9am - 2.30pm

Level 7 Auditorium
Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital, South Brisbane

Children with disability and complex health needs:
Queensland Health and the NDIS working together

In partnership with Children’s Health Queensland, Griffith University is bringing together a range of experts and people with lived experiences to discuss how families of children with disability and complex medical needs navigate both the health system and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The NDIS is a significant reform that requires families to understand and direct their own supports, in turn affecting their relationships with disability service providers and health professionals.

Families and health professionals can start preparing now for this individualised approach to service provision and find the best way to work together to provide quality of life for vulnerable children.

Join the discussion either in person in Brisbane, or via our live video conference at various regional Queensland Health facilities.
Griffith University appreciates the support of Children’s Health Queensland, the Queensland Statewide Child and Youth Clinical Network, Life Without Barriers, Carers Queensland and the Horizon Foundation’s Baby Bridges Program.

**TICKET OPTIONS:**
- $185 Corporate and Staff Brisbane, includes catering.
- $75 Concession Brisbane, includes catering.
- $75 SINGLE - Regional Video Conference Connection
- $150 MULTIPLE - Regional Video Conference Connection (2+ delegates) $ 30 Concession Regional Video Conference, requires attendance at a Queensland Health facility
(Concession tickets for families & carers, people with disability and students)

**SUPPORTS:** Hearing loop, live captioning and Auslan interpreters will be provided, and assistance for people with disability as required.

**TO REGISTER:**
Pay online via GriffithPAY
Contact Tracey Hartmann t.hartmann@griffith.edu.au / 0408 206 810

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**Upcoming Events**

**September**

18th Last day Term 3

**October**

6th Term 4 Begins
12th Sports Day
13th – 16th Junior Secondary Fishing Camp
14th Parent Group Workshop – “Alternative and Augmentative Communication at Calamvale”
19th Pupil Fee Day
22nd Tupperware Party hosted by our Chappy
23rd – 27th School Improvement Unit Visit
28th P&C Meeting

**November**

6th Bush Dance (6pm-8pm)
25th P&C Meeting

**December**

2nd Senior Graduation
7th Early Years Awards Night
8th Middle, Junior and Senior Secondary Awards Night
11th Last Day Term 4
I'd like to take the opportunity in this last newsletter for the term to acknowledge the dedicated and hardworking staff of Calamvale Special School. Every day I am impressed by the commitment our staff show to the school. This commitment is not only from the teaching staff but from all employees, both permanent and temporary.

Today I'd like to pay tribute to one of these people.

Our School’s Officer, Mr Norm Radcliffe. Norm is the man behind the beautiful school gardens. From the moment you walk into the school you can’t help but be impressed by the lovely gardens planted and cared for Norm. He does way more than he is required to do to ensure there are flowers blooming in gardens, throughout the year and that each garden bed has its own unique qualities. Norm has said to me on a number of occasions when I compliment him on his work, that he does it for the kids.

Not only does Norm keep the grounds in a pristine fashion, but he is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and handyman jobs that seem to be never ending. He never complains about the constant requests he receives to do any number of jobs for our teachers, he just happily goes about his work and gets things done in blink of an eye.

Thank you Norm, you are a Calamvale Special School Legend.

Last night the families and sponsors of the Canberra trip gathered together to celebrate with a thank you BBQ and slide show. The evening was really well attended and our senior students did a very good job of telling us about the things that excited them the most while they were away. Mrs Stewart-Murphy, Ms Sami and Ms Gater were presented with beautiful bouquets from the families of the students who participated in the trip.

Unfortunately, Deputy Principal Mandy Stewart – Murphy is currently on sick leave. Mandy will also be away for the first part of Term 4 on Long Service Leave. I’m sure you join with me in wishing Mandy a speedy recovery and a great break while on leave. Mr Anthony Kruck will be Acting Deputy Principal for this period.

Just a reminder that the school priorities for 2015 are:

- **Communication** – every student having an effective communication system
- **Literacy and Numeracy** for learning
- **Quality teaching**

I’d like to wish all of our students, families and staff a safe and wonderful spring holiday and look forward to seeing you all when school resumes on Tuesday 6th October.

*Tom Byrne*  
*Principal*

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**Parent Group Presentation**

The next Parent Group Information Session is being held on Wednesday 14th October at 1.45pm

The session is being coordinated by the school’s Speech Language Therapist, Catriona Pine, who will be providing helpful information and answers to parents who would like to know more about “Alternative and Augmentative Communication at Calamvale Special School”. Parents and carers interested in attending are asked to contact Denise at reception to let her know if you are coming for the provision of resources and catering. Denise can be contacted on 3712 5555.

On Tuesday 10th November at 9:15am the school will host an informal morning tea for parents and carers to connect with each other and just have a catch-up with other parents and school staff. More information will come home closer to the time.