Principal’s Report

2016 Learning Priority Areas
The Department has an expectation that all state schools will have a particular focus on what is most important in each school to get the best outcomes for students in that school. At Calamvale Special School our sharp and narrow focus is on three critical areas. These are:

1. Communication for Learning: The goal for communication is, “Every student will have an effective communication system.”

2. Literacy: We will implement in every classroom the Four Blocks Framework, an evidence based approach to teach reading, writing and spelling to students with disabilities.

3. Numeracy: We will continue to implement the Australian Curriculum and the school’s senior secondary program. Our work will be supported by using resources such as Queensland’s Curriculum to Classroom, Calamvale Special School’s Numeracy Framework, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Guideline for Individual Learning and phasing in YuMi Deadly Mathematics Pedagogy.

This year the school has created new positions to support teachers in implementing this improvement agenda. The positions are part-time and include:

- A Literacy Coach modelling and supporting all teachers to be confident and skilled in using Four Blocks.
- A numeracy coach to support the implementation of YuMi Deadly Mathematics and the Australian mathematics curriculum.
- A senior secondary coordinator to ensure all Year 10-12 students have a purposeful program that leads them to meaningful post-school options. The role includes developing and implementing a school-based senior secondary program and units of work.

Teachers selected to perform these roles are:

- Literacy Coach – Nick Drover
- Numeracy Coach – Sharon Jones
- Senior Secondary Coordinator – Bec Gater

Also the Acting Head of Curriculum position has been filled for Semester 1 by Marissa Bertwistle.

The Investing for Success grant for 2016 and 2017, is $71,865 a year to support our priority areas. This funding has been shared between the three priority areas.

Once the agreement is approved by the Director General it will be published on our website.

I look forward to implementing the various strategies developed to progress these three priority areas. Keep an eye out in future newsletters for updates on how we are going.

Playground and Lunch Times
Over the last few weeks staff have been reviewing playground and eating times to see if we can do this better. The last few days have been so hot and risky for our students that have epilepsy that they have stayed inside for both lunch breaks where the rooms are air-conditioned.

The current duty roster for teachers and teacher aides sees them all on duty every day and most times, twice a day. This has led us to review what we do and undertake some research into what happens in other special schools. The outcome being that all staff have agreed to have their classes eat in their rooms or in pairs on verandahs or undercover. Teachers and teacher aides will take their break in turns. Playtime will see less students in the playground at any one time with rosters of staff supervising their classes and up to three others. We will trial this for Semester 1 and tweak it as we proceed. Should you have any questions or concerns, please email me or get in touch with Denise to make an appointment to discuss further.

Tom Byrne
Principal

P&C Report
The school’s P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 24th February commencing at 9.30am. All parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

Easter Egg Raffle
Each year the P&C run a Monster Easter Egg Raffle to raise much needed funds to support the school’s Chaplaincy program. The success of this fundraiser depends on family and community support. The best way to help is to donate Easter eggs. These can be dropped into school anytime in the lead up to Easter. The multiple draws will be held at school during one of the Easter events, commencing Monday 21st March. Please support the raffle as it is the major fundraiser for Chaplaincy.
Contact Details
Over the Christmas holidays many people move and contact details seem to change.

If you have made any changes to your home address, home phone or mobile phone, email or emergency contacts, please call Denise on 3712 5555 or email her on dbouy2@eq.edu.au

After School Care and Vacation Care
“Click” (Lifestyle Options) currently offers after school, vacation and respite care to families who have children with disabilities. The school and P&C have been looking for a suitable organisation to run these programs for our students, with no luck. However Flexible Living has approached us to do just that.

Subject to final agreement it will be possible to have Calamvale Special School students attend after school care and vacation care at school. Lifestyle care will provide more information shortly, but you may like to contact Lauren or Grandall on 1300 359 253. Places will be limited. (See notice following.)

Assembly Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Awarded For</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EY4</td>
<td>Emma</td>
<td>Sitting and participating in group activities during morning session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EY5</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Working hard and sharing with her friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2</td>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>Great effort in using his words to say how he felt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Great effort in using her words to say how she felt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M6</td>
<td>Hayleigh</td>
<td>Being a great helper and friend in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thelim</td>
<td>Displaying a hardworking and positive approach towards learning</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>Adapting to his new class with a positive attitude</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Being kind and helpful to his friends</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gracie</td>
<td>Applying great effort at following all “Think Five” expectations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arianne</td>
<td>Adapting to her new class with a mature outlook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JS5</td>
<td>Kristen</td>
<td>Outstanding effort in HPE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dealing with frustration in an appropriate way</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Always putting her best effort into her school work</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tiarna</td>
<td>Having a positive attitude towards her school work</td>
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<tr>
<td>JS6</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Displaying excellent manners and listening to teacher directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brianna</td>
<td>Staying focused, listening to directions and completing all assigned tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS1</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>Being patient and settling into his new classroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Coming Events
24/2/16 9.30am P&C AGM
18/3/16 CSS Swimming Carnival & Meal Deal
24/03/16 Last day Term 1
11/4/16 Term 2 commences
25/4/16 ANZAC Day public holiday

Camp Have a Chat
Camp Have a Chat brings together school aged children who are using or trialling speech generating systems and communication books (AAC) and their families. Camp aims to develop each child’s communication abilities providing opportunities to take part in activities that promote creativity, fun and friendship. This year we have two camps running in Townsville and Brisbane during school holiday time.

Applicants can complete the attached application OR sign up online: http://www.cpl.org.au/services/childrens-services/children-groups/camp-have-a-chat

Why Camp?
- A unique opportunity for children and their families to meet and develop skills alongside other children who use communication systems
- An opportunity to take part in activities specifically designed to develop communication skills with intensive support to work on communication goals
- Families can network, learn valuable skills and share knowledge and experience
- Families can learn about communication systems and discuss the next step for their child
- Campers have lots of fun and make new friends!

For more information contact chac@cplqld.org.au if you have any questions or call (07) 3637 6350 on Monday or Wednesday.

“The Click” Flexible Living
The Click is an innovative club for school aged (under 18 years) young people with a disability that allows opportunity to participate in recreational and social opportunities with other young people in a positive and meaningful way.

Including: Socialisation • Personal care support • Support with Medication • Nutrionally approved afternoon tea provided.

The Click also provides respite opportunities for carers to take a break from their caring role and offer a much needed rest and relaxation during the week or to continue study or working to further support the family now and into the future.

Your young person is picked up with other students at the end of the school day and then transported to our centre where you can collect them any time up to 5.00pm. The Click operates during Queensland Education official school terms on Monday to Friday and is funded through Queensland Community Care Services previously known as HACC funding.

Requirements to participate in The Click Include:
- Eligibility under the Queensland Community Care Services guidelines
- School aged (under 18 years) people with a disability
- Enrolment in an approved school (primary or high school)

The Cost:
$15.00 per session
An additional charge of $1.00 per minute after 6pm applies.
This is a cash free centre and all services are invoiced at months end.

Our Location
Our centre is based at 3 Winglass Drive, Hillcrest, Brisbane, Queensland, 4118
Contact Us 1300 359 253 www.flexiliving.org.au
Lauren Ward and Grandall Manning