Principal’s Report

Welcome to the 2015 School Year
Welcome to all of our new families including the parents and carers of Calamvale Special School’s 10 new Prep students. I’d also like to extend a big welcome back to all of our families from 2014.

I have had the pleasure of meeting a really good number of the 127 students enrolled in classes across the campus. It has been an absolute pleasure meeting the parent, carer and family members of our students that I have had the opportunity to speak with so far. I hope to meet many more of you in the coming weeks.

Mr Grace said to me during the handover that I had won the lottery in being appointed to relieve as principal of this amazing school. I can honestly say that he was so right. I feel very privileged to be working with and leading the Calamvale team.

It is now mid-week of the second week of school and I am happy to report that Calamvale Special School is settled and running smoothly, with Mr Grace’s predicted enrolment number being spot on! Today is “Day 8”, the department’s census date for staffing and school resourcing. Total student population is currently 127.

There are 9 new teachers this year, with 22 class groups. Numbers of students in the early years of schooling are growing.

The administration team consists of myself, deputy principal, Mrs Mandy Stewart-Murphy and head-of-curriculum, Mrs Elle Angwin.

As part of our break down of duties the admin team has responsibilities for the management of students, supervision of teachers and parent contact of particular year levels. This year the age group responsibilities have been divided up as follows: Early Years – Mrs Angwin Middle Years – Mr Byrne Junior and Senior Years – Mrs Stewart-Murphy Parents are asked to make contact with the relevant administrator regarding enquiries about their children. However, Mrs Angwin’s days with us are Wednesday to Friday, so I am also supporting Early Years teachers and students, so feel free to get in touch with me at other times.

Thank you for the manner in which you have prepared your children for school, for purchasing the required materials and for ensuring they have the school uniform, including a hat. It really makes a difference to successful learning when parents support the school as you do.

Thanks for making me feel so welcome; I am really very pleased to be here.

Tom Byrne

Newsletters
This year we intend to publish the school newsletter every second Thursday, commencing today. It will go home with the youngest child in the family. It is also going to be uploaded onto the school’s website each Friday following its distribution. The website address is www.calamvalespecialschool.eq.edu.au

Assemblies
School assemblies are currently held each week, on a Friday. We will be reviewing assembly times and structure and I am inviting parents and carers to let us know your thoughts about assembly, for example times that you might like to attend; whether you as a parent would like to be present when your son or daughter is receiving an award. Please email tbyrn18@eq.edu.au with your thoughts or bring them up for discussion at the next P7C Meeting.

Award recipients for the last week: M3 Amber, Benjamin, Christopher and Joshua 2 JS4 Holly SS3 Michael and Kourtenay

Congratulations to these students and to the others who also received awards.

Canberra Fundraising Sausage Sizzle at Mater’s Parkinson
Last Saturday the senior students and family members held a successful fundraising BBQ. The students were in charge and did an absolutely amazing job cooking, preparing food, serving customers and working as a team. Thanks to everyone who made this such a successful day.

Pictured are the Calamvale crew hard at work.
Procedures for Dropping off and Collecting Students
For security reasons the procedure for collecting students is for parents to come to reception, sign their child out and wait until the child comes to them. Please do not go directly to classrooms to request that children be allowed to go home early.

If someone other than the parent or regular “pick-up” person is collecting students then authority for this to happen should be provided.

Students travelling to school by bus are supervised during the journey, on arrival and at pick-up time at the end of the day. Parents dropping off and collecting students from the service road entry off Beaudesert Rd are asked to not bring the children too early as they can become unsettled waiting for staff to escort them to supervised areas from 8.30am.

At the end of the school day students are supervised by staff until 3.15pm. Those not collected at this time are escorted by staff to the office, where parents should collect them if running late.

Thank you for your cooperation with this as it ensures the safety of our students.

P&C Report
The school’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 25th February commencing at 9.30am. All parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

The 2014 December Christmas raffle made a profit of $1054. Thanks to everyone who sold tickets.

Date Saver: Sunday 8th March for the next Canberra Trip fundraiser BBQ at Bunnings, Compton Rd Underwood. Volunteers are needed and a roster will be sent out closer to the date.

The Canberra Fundraiser held at Master’s Parkinson on 31st January made a profit of $447. Also a $222 profit was made on the day selling raffle tickets at the BBQ and at Calamvale Community College polling booth. Thanks to volunteers and to Calamvale Community College for letting us have our raffle stall at their school.

Morning tea was held on the first day of school. It was really an enjoyable morning meeting old and new families and friends.

Please note that uniform orders sent into school may take up to a week to be processed from now on.

Forward Notice: The P&C will be selling tickets to the Calamvale Carnival.

A P & C member, Rachael Woods, has become a Nutrimetics consultant & has offered to donate to the P & C incentives during the year for any sales made to the school community. These will be used in our raffles as prizes. If you wish to place an order, please phone Rachael on 0450 902 905 or 3800 3003 or email her on no placelikehome@live.com.au. You can view the brochure on nutrimetics.com.au.

Chappy’s News
We would like to establish a parent support group and hold monthly morning teas, or afternoon teas for parents and carers of Calamvale Special School students. The idea being that we meet informally and have a discussion about a particular topic or concern that others might be able to help with. As well as this we could set up a program of guest speakers on areas related to raising students with disabilities.

The first get together will be held next Wednesday 11/2/15 at 9.15am. Come to reception and you will be directed to the meeting room.

The meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month and rotate between mornings (9.15am) and afternoons (1.45pm).

We would love to see as many parents and carers as possible and hear your ideas about what you would like on the program.

Coming Events
11/2/15 Parent Morning Tea
25/2/15 9.30am P&C AGM
8/3/15 Canberra Fundraiser BBQ (Bunnings Underwood)
3/04/15 Good Friday/ Easter Vacation
20/4/15 Term 2 commences

Advertisement:
Labour of Love Art Exhibition
The Old Schoolhouse Gallery
124 Shore St North Cleveland
6th February – 1st March 2015

Artists include Karin Brear, Junita Grosvenor and Geoffrey Sear

Gala Opening Night 6.30pm Friday 6th February 2015
Light refreshments available
Gallery Open: Saturday and Sunday 9.30am to 4.30pm
Ph: 3821 2419