Principal’s Report

On Wednesday 11th February the first parent and carer morning tea was help to kick off the parent support group. For the first meeting we had great participation and about 11 parents or carers and family members attended.

The school’s Guidance Officer, Anne Chapman spoke to the group about the National Disability Insurance Scheme and how it might impact on families when it is introduced in Queensland next year. There is a note regarding further information elsewhere in this newsletter.

The school Chaplain, Sharon Stoodley also welcomed attendees and gave an introduction to her work and how she supports students, families and staff.

Topics that were discussed included:
- Vacation care at school
- After school care at school
- Getting best results from medical care (preparing children for medical appointments)
- The speech language and eating program being implement at CSS by Speech Language Pathologist, Catriona Pine
- AUSLAN for parents
- First Aid Certification for parents (Epilepsy Queensland’s program)
- Nutrition and children with sensitivity issues
- Successful toileting
- Networking opportunities

We also discussed the real possibilities of having a crèche for the siblings of our students so parents can attend the AUSLAN and First Aid courses without having to look after their little ones.

Thanks to parent support we are looking at having the “Bust a Move” dance program offered for out-of-school-hours at school.

The ideas will be fleshed out some more and turned into the parent and care support group’s program for 2015.

Thanks to our Chaplain Sharon and for everyone who came along for such a positive start to greater parent involvement in the school.

Just a reminder that the Parent and Citizens’ Association AGM will be held at school on Wednesday 25th February at 9.30am. I look forward to working with the P&C members as the year progresses.

Tom Byrne

Assembly Awards
Award recipients for the last fortnight (Middle to Senior Years):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M1</th>
<th>Gracie</th>
<th>For being a wonderful kid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Working hard in Maths</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley</td>
<td>Following the rule “I can listen”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gracie</td>
<td>Following the rule “I can listen”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Following the rule “I can listen”</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bella</td>
<td>Following the rule “I can listen”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Following the rule “I can listen”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gracie</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>A fantastic increase in participation in class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathon</td>
<td>For writing a fantastic dinosaur story</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron</td>
<td>For writing and illustrating his dinosaur story</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayleigh</td>
<td>Great effort in literacy and phonics work</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Great literacy work and improving behaviour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyalok</td>
<td>For being the best student in history</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison</td>
<td>Swimmer of the week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison</td>
<td>Being responsible every day and for making new friends at her new school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Sitting independently, copying and writing sentences in his journal without assistance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shakira</td>
<td>Sitting at her desk throughout the day and completing each subject task</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daisy</td>
<td>Doing a great job with her schoolwork</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daisy</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brianna</td>
<td>Placing words in the correct sequence to make sentences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jed</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leticia</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leticia</td>
<td>Completing classwork with consistency and hard work</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Working on AUSLAN Language skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miracle</td>
<td>Helping at the fundraising sausage sizzle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to these students and to the others not listed who also received awards. Early years students haven’t commenced assembly just yet.
Communication Books
Communication Books are the safest and most effective way of getting messages between home and school. Sometimes in our busy days we ask others to pass a message along. Often the message isn’t delivered and we have a miscommunication, for instance, is a child going home on the bus today or being picked up? This type of miscommunication causes anxiety in children and often confuses the staff who look after the children at the end of the day.

Please make it a habit of passing messages through the communication book.

Student Mobile Phones at School
Students who bring mobile phones to school should hand them to their teachers for safe keeping during the school day and collect them as they leave in the afternoon. Students are not to use mobile phones in class or playtime for their safety and the safety of others. Parents and carers are asked to discuss this with their children if they are bringing a phone to school.

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.

Seniors Canberra Trip Fundraising – Our next fundraising venture for our senior students’ trip to Canberra is a BBQ at Bunnings Crompton Road Underwood on Sunday 8 March. Again we need volunteers to help on the stall through the day. Please fill in the form below and send it back as soon as possible. If you can be flexible with what time you can help, please indicate that on the form & we will contact you in the week before to let you know where we have gaps in the roster.

Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser Sunday 8 March 2015
7.00am – 9.00am
9.00am – 11.00am
11.00am – 1.00pm
1.00pm – 3.00pm
3.00pm – 5.00pm
Flexible

NAME________________________
Ph ____________________________
Email __________________________

National Disability Insurance Scheme Information
The link to the government webpage below, gives you good information on getting ready for the NDIS. http://www.qld.gov.au/disability/adults/ready-for-ndis/

Information sessions are being held across the state during February and March. If you are unable to find the details of the information sessions contact the school office and we will assist.

Chappy’s News
It was so lovely to catch up with some of our parents at the community support meeting last week. It will be a great opportunity to get plugged into school networks and get to know other parents and staff better.

Our school has been blessed by the support of a local church who will provide us with $50 grocery hampers each week-filled with non-perishable staple food requirements. If you would like to take advantage of this service, or would like to do in another family, please let me know by contacting the school and leaving a message for me.

I am at school on Wednesdays and Thursdays please feel free to contact me if you would like to have a chat.

M7 Welcomes in a New School Year
The year has got off to an excellent start in M7! With the new school year, new classes and two new students joining us, it’s an exciting time and we’ve spent the last few weeks getting to know each other.

Our new students Lachlan and Hayleigh are a super addition to our lovely class and have already started showing their enthusiasm in all our class work.

Fresh from our summer break we are diving straight into our work this term, exploring shapes and measurement in mathematics, delving into the past, investigating the lives of people in early Australia in History and discovering light and sound in science.

Every morning we start our day by practicing our ‘Brain Boosters’ and movement program by ‘Learning Connections’. The program helps us switch on our brains in the morning, sharpen our gross motor skills and aids us with our concentration and impulse control and is the best way to start our day!

We have a big focus this term on literacy and have a comfy reading room set up where we can take our library books and read our class book The Adventures of Captain Underpants. This is series of books about a grumpy head master hypnotised by two naughty school kids to think he is a superhero and is rather silly.

We have started keeping daily journals and will soon start writing letters to friends within our school community in keeping with our English program for the term. As we learn more about our neighbours ‘next door’, different cultures, languages and ways of communicating, we will also start experimenting with foods from around the world.
We brush up our life skills by writing up a list and heading to the supermarket every week to buy our ingredients before coming back to school and cooking up a storm. So far we have cooked Italian Pizza and a new age twist on lasagne with some delicious lasagne cupcakes and we’re not shy to say our cooking is already getting an admirable reputation!

We’re having an awesome time in the pool on Tuesday mornings in HPE and Music is fast becoming one of our favourite subjects with most of our class excited to start choir next week. In Art there is plenty of time to decorate the classroom and make it our own, as we design and create our own superheroes (just like Captain Underpants) and monsters to go with our classroom themes.

There are so many fun things going on in our classroom we haven’t even had time to tell you about our trips to the Sensory Room, our Show and Tell Fridays or our Positive Behavioural Management Program; ‘Class Dojo’, but you are always welcome to come and visit and find out all about them.

We are excited for the year to come, it’s going to be great!
M7

School Closure in the Event of Weather / Storm Damage
The Department of Education and Training has asked schools to develop an emergency response plan for the coming days, in the event of flooding or storm damage with Cyclone Marcia. Should the school be closed I would like parents to check the school’s website for an update and to look at the school’s Facebook page. We will post a notice for parents here. The website can be accessed through this link: https://calamvalespecialschool.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx
The link to the Facebook page is: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Calamvale-Special-School/402859053161997
The most up to date information from the Department can be accessed through the Qschools App:

Coming Events
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

Light refreshments available
Gallery Open: Saturday and Sunday 9.30am to 4.30pm
Ph: 3821 2419