Principal’s Report

Welcome back to all of our students and families for a busy Term 2. I trust you all enjoyed a great Easter holiday break. I returned from my vacation in Europe after having a really interesting trip through Southern France, only to come down with a dreadful influenza bug just as school started. Now I’m feeling much better, I can say it’s great to be back at school. I’d also like to pay tribute to Mrs Mandy Stewart-Murphy, Mrs Elle Angwin, Mr Anthony Kruck and Mrs Kate Eldridge for very capably managing the school in my absence.

In this newsletter we will acknowledge the wonderful way Calamvale Special School students, family and staff commemorated the ANZAC Centenary. Unfortunately I missed the assembly, but understand that the choir was amazing and there were more than a few misty eyes. Staff tell me that the students were outstanding in the respectful manner in which they participated. A very big thanks to Anthony Kruck for his organisation of the assembly, to the choir teachers and school staff and community for making the event significant for our students.

A reminder that the school is holding an AUSLAN for Parents program at school, as part of the Parent Group Program. The first of these is scheduled for today, Thursday 30/5, however I didn’t get the chance to send an alert home last week, so a repeat of Week 1’s session will be held if needed. Dates for the five week program are 30/4, 7/5, 14/5, 21/5 and 28/5. The sessions will be held in the parent room from 1:30-3:00pm and conducted by the school’s AUSLAN teacher aides, Linda Donnelly and Jade Huggins. I hope as many parents as possible who want to extend their signing skills can attend.

Best wishes
Tom Byrne

ANZAC Day Commemorative Ceremony

Last Friday here at school, we held a very special ceremony to commemorate Anzac Day. It was a time to remember the way men and women have fought and died in wars so that we can live in peace. We remembered the Anzac Spirit of Courage, Mateship and Sacrifice.

We were very fortunate to have a number of invited guests in attendance at the service. These included Lieutenant Daniel Luhrs (Gallipoli Army Barracks), Lance Corporal Mitchell Gould (Gallipoli Army Barracks), Mr Stewart Rae (Greenbank RSL Sub-branch), Dr Jim Chalmers (Federal Member for Rankin), Mr Duncan Pegg (State Member for Stretton), and Cr Angela Owen-Taylor (Local member for Parkinson).

The highlight of the day was having soldiers from Enoggera here who also brought along with them an armoured “Bush Master” vehicle, which the students were able to explore and climb in.
Thank to our students Jamie, Laticia, Miracle and Kylie who spoke confidently and clearly during the service. All the students are to be commended for their behaviour during the ceremony. It was a lovely day of remembrance.

As well as the ceremony held at school our senior student leaders participated in the ceremony at Calamvale Community College where they laid a wreath.

Mrs Mercer arranged and accompanied several students to represent the school at the Commemoration Ceremony for Queensland schools at ANZAC Square, Brisbane. The photos below are of some of the students who attended the ceremony. It was a wonderful experience for these students with all enjoying the service.

**Assembly Awards Week Ending 1/5/15**

As we haven’t had a school assembly apart from the ANZAC Day commemoration there has been no awards presented.

**Nepal Compassion Campaign**

As most of you are probably aware, Nepal has recently been hit with a devastating earthquake reaching a whopping 7.5 on the Richter scale, triggering avalanches, landslides and devastating the country’s infrastructure. The earthquake has currently claimed over 5000 lives, injuring many more and is estimated to affect over 8 million people across a number of countries.

When tragedies like this occur they touch the hearts of us all and this, in particular, has left an ache in my heart as recently I had the pleasure of living and traveling Nepal, seeing firsthand the kindness, selflessness and happiness of a country that is considered one of the poorest in the world.

A number of our teachers have special links to Nepal and one is currently there with his family who are all thankfully safe with shelter, food and protection from the aftershocks that are still having disastrous effects on the country.

Unfortunately many were not as lucky and have lost family, friends, houses and their way of life - a loss that will not quickly be eased.

Whilst in Nepal I visited and volunteered in a number of Special Schools and orphanages that, like many others, sustained huge damage in the quakes. These children who depend on the good will and help of others have been left sleeping outside in subzero temperatures with little or no access to running water, food or essential supplies. Although luckily they were not injured in the quakes they are now having to come to the realization that the life they knew is gone, their communities are in disarray and many of the people who cared for them are, themselves, now in need of desperate attention. The children are still in great danger as temperatures in Nepal continue to drop, monsoon season arrives and international and national aid struggle to find ways to reach communities amongst the ruin.
Although they themselves are in need of aid, they have started efforts to help those most at risk in their own communities, banding together to ensure no more lives are lost unnecessarily in the aftermath of this tragedy.

Here at Calamvale Special School we strongly believe in community and helping those in need. We have decided that we will help our Nepali brothers and sisters in their struggles and efforts. Over the next few weeks we, as a community, will start collaborating efforts to raise much needed money as well as emergency provisions such as clothes, blankets, non-perishable food, sleeping bags, etc. that can be sent to Nepal when they are able to receive it.

These efforts will help the children directly, as well as aid them in their efforts to help their own communities and the people they love.

We hope to focus our efforts on a few organisations such as the Disabled Service Association (DSA) in Bungmati, Annal Jyoti Boarding School in Dolahiti and Rainbow Children’s Home in Pokhara as we have direct links to them and can respond to their needs. Many of the children in these orphanages and schools have disabilities and it is our hope that we establish a long term connection with DSA, aiding them in their growth in the future by donating equipment that will better the children’s lives.

We have confidence and hope that these communities will pick themselves up after this horrible misfortune and regain the happiness and fantastic way of life they lost just days ago. It’s our pleasure to help in any way we can and we hope that over the coming few weeks we can all contribute to such a great cause.

Donations can be left at the school office for storage and arranging transport. Information re the donation of money will be available on the school’s Facebook page early next week.

Jeni Billinton, Class Teacher M7

### Parent Group Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic / Activity</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30/4/15 (Thurs)</td>
<td>1.30pm</td>
<td>Auslan for parents</td>
<td>Linda Donnelly</td>
<td>A 5 week program starting 2nd week T2 and finishing Wk 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/5/15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jade Huggins</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14/5/15</td>
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<td>21/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/5/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/5/15</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Supporting Eating for Children with Sensory Difficulties</td>
<td>Speech Language Pathologist Catriona Pine</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/6/15</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>First Aid for Parents</td>
<td>Epilepsy Qld</td>
<td>Time to be confirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/7/15</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Nutrition for Children with Sensitivities</td>
<td>School Nurse</td>
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<td>12/8/15</td>
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<td>Ekka Show Day</td>
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<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/9/15</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Successful Toileting</td>
<td>Occupational Therapist, Nurse, Blue Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/10/15</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>Alternative and Augmentative Communication at Calamvale</td>
<td>Speech Language Pathologist Catriona Pine</td>
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Cleaner Vacancy

Calamvale Special School has a vacancy for a permanent part-time school cleaner. Hours are 15 ¾ per week across spilt shifts.

Interested people are requested to collect the application package form the school office.

Applications close on Wednesday 13th May.

For enquiries please contact Kathy Harris by email: kharr20@eq.edu.au or phone 3712 5555.

Calamvale Carnival

The Calamvale Carnival is being held on Saturday 25th July from 11.00am – 9.00pm at Calamvale Community College. The College has offered our school community the opportunity to pre-purchase armbands for rides and concert passes at greatly reduced prices (Early-Bird Specials) before they go public. This is a fundraising opportunity for us, with a percentage of the purchase price of early-bird tickets going to P&C.

The slide show of the Carnival has been created. It can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0TkwaO2aY

Our school office will manage the purchase of the armbands and concert passes.

Orders will be taken with the attached order form completed and with full payment.

Name: _________________________________ Contact details: _________________________

Order:

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult - All-you-can-ride Armbands and Concert Pass</td>
<td>$65</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child - Kids rides only Armbands and Concert Pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult - All-you-can-ride Armbands</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child - Kids rides only Armbands</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Ages - Evening entertainment zone access only</td>
<td>$20</td>
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Total $ enclosed: $____________

Expression of Interest in reserved car parking in grounds of Calamvale Special School I am interested in reserving a car park in the grounds of Calamvale Special School for the Calamvale Carnival  Yes / No

Name: _________________________________ Contact details: _________________________

Calendar:

6/5/15  P&C Meeting (held over from 22/4)  
7/5/15  Uniform Shop Open 8:30am-9:30am  
7/5/15  Mother’s Day Stall 9:30am-1:00pm  
8/5/15  Uniform Shop Open 8:30am-9:30am  
8/5/15  Mother’s Day Stall 9:30am-1:00pm  
27/5/15  P&C Meeting  
24/6/15  P&C Meeting  
27/6/15  Winter vacation commences  
13/7/15  Term 3 commences  
18/8/15  Canberra Trip