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Volume 3, Issue 8 – Thursday 1 September 2011



CITY OBSERVER

NEWSLETTER OF CALOUNDRA CITY PRIVATE SCHOOL

Deadline – Tuesday – 3.00pm

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2011 Term Dates

Term 1:

- Monday 24th January to Friday 1st April

Term 2:

- Tuesday 19th April to Thursday 16th June

Term 3:

- Tuesday 12th July to Friday 16th September

Term 4:

- Tuesday 4th October to Friday 25th November

Dates To Remember

Parent Information Evening

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10
Thursday 1st September
6.30pm in the library

From the Principal



"The fact is that given the challenges we face, education doesn't need to be reformed -- it needs to be transformed. The key to this transformation is not to standardize education, but to personalize it, to build achievement on discovering the individual talents of each child, to put students in an environment where they want to learn and where they can naturally discover their true passions."
(Sir Ken Robinson, from The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything)

I was recently in Mrs Stuart's art class learning the finer art of finding the right way to mix colours for skin tones. Does it surprise you, like it did me, to discover that skin colour is a mix of colours as diverse as red, blue and yellow? Oh yes, and there is some white in the mix too, though white is not considered to be a colour. Now as someone who has often experienced a 'Picasso or da Vinci' moment, I have tried my hand at painting – not to any degree of success I might add and given that I did not know that white, red, yellow and blue make up skin colour, this is not surprising. I freely admit though, that art is one of my passions. I love nothing more than walking through an art gallery admiring the work of great painters and artists or in an art class or trying my hand at drawing and painting when the mood strikes.

Discovering that such a small mix of colours can produce very life like skin tones was something of a revelation to me. Red, blue and yellow are of course primary colours and from these three colours, most other colours are derived. Wikipedia lists hundreds of colours by RGB, hue, saturation and value, because colour 'naming' is somewhat arbitrary and ambiguous to say the least. It's estimated that there are 16 million colours that can be simulated by a 20 bit RGB computer, which bears no resemblance to the infinite numbers of colours that our eyes can recognise. Don't you find it amazing to think that from so few primary colours, a world of colours is created?

Doug Keeley, a talented musician and one of the presenters at a recent principal's conference I attended in Toronto, made the point that all music is derived from twelve tones, called the chromatic scale. All jazz, pop, rock, country and classical music is the outcome of variations in these twelve notes – a point that he proceeded to demonstrate by playing just a few notes from some well-known and well-loved pieces of music and surprisingly, within a few notes, most people in the audience recognised the music and the and the group playing it. This proved to be an interesting segue into the keynote presentation by internationally renowned, educationalists Michael Fullan, who is Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto and Dr Andy Hargreaves, who is the Chair of

Excellence Program Forum

7th September
3.15pm in the library

Years 6 and 7
Canberra Trip
11-16th September

Last day of
Term Three
16th September

Father's Day Stall tomorrow

See more information in the P
and F section of this newsletter.



Parent's Walking Group

If you would like to improve your fitness and meet other CCPS parents, you are welcome to join the School's social walking group. They meet each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.30am, outside Miss Green's office for an hours walk.



School of Education at Boston College.

Both speakers spoke at length around some of the fallacies in education. One of the key points that resonated with me, was the fallacy of prescription. Both Hargreaves and Fullan argued that the old industrial model of schools had passed its 'used by date' long ago and that prescriptions of what students should study was no longer relevant. Hargreaves argued that the old model doesn't need reforming, rather it needs to be totally transformed- a sentiment shared by Sir Ken Robinson, another leading, international educational expert. As Fullan explained:

"Reform is like ripe fruit; it rarely travels well."

Hargreaves stressed that high performing organisations are flexible, innovative, creative and fit the curriculum to the child. Parents, the reason that this resonates so strongly with me, is that at Caloundra City Private School we go to extraordinary lengths to be flexible, innovative, and creative in fitting the curriculum (the teaching and learning) to each child.

This happens from Prep all the way through to Year 12. Here at the City School we don't have a 'one size fits all' mentality and if you have the opportunity to spend time in your son or daughter's classroom you will observe the variety of tasks that students are engaged in and learning from. We call this a differentiated curriculum and it is part of the DNA of this school. Added to this mix is the Excellence Forum which allows students to choose topics that they are passionate about and explore and report on what they have learned to an interested audience of family, friends and staff. Students from Years 1 to 8 will be presenting on Wednesday 7 September at 3.15pm in the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Library and all parents are welcome to attend.

Parents who have visited the Senior classes during the recent Open Days, have been amazed at the opportunities our Seniors have – in the choice of subjects, as well as in the flexibility of studying Vocational Education units on line, school based traineeships and studying first year university subjects that give automatic entry into those courses at the university, regardless of the student's OP result. Additional opportunities exist in the School's Exchange Program and in the leadership positions within the school and the outstanding Outdoor Education Program.

What is different about CCPS is that we already deliver this flexibility of learning. Many other schools talk about it but don't deliver on their promises - the opportunities exist for a few students only. I encourage all parents who have not attended an Open Day to ring and request a tour, so that you can see for yourself, the actual opportunities that already exist at CCPS and get a stronger sense of the outstanding teaching and learning that happens in the classroom every day.

Schools may have similar ingredients – students, teachers and classrooms - but like the combination of primary colours and the combination of 12 musical notes, the outcomes for each student can be very different, and differ dramatically from one school to another. The same mix of notes can be a symphony to your ears – like Beethoven's No. 5 - or a cacophony of noises. The same mix of colours can be a beautiful "Mona Lisa" or a child-like one dimensional stick drawing. What would you rather for your son or daughter? Of course you want what's best for your child.

Parents, at CCPS, we do educate the whole child, we do prepare young people for the future and more importantly we give students the knowledge and life skills necessary for a successful future where they graduate at the end of Year 12 as confident, capable and competent young men and women ready to take on the world. Sending your son or daughter to Caloundra City Private School is an investment in your son or daughter's future; a future too precious to gamble on an alternative, so please consider your son or daughter's future education very carefully.

"Our task is to educate our students' whole being so they can face the future. We may not see the future, but they will and our job is to help them make something of it." (Sir Ken Robinson)

Wishing all of our Dads a happy and fun Father's Day on Sunday.

Karon Graham
Principal

WOOLIES & COLES PROMOTION TALLY

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5529**

COLES = 12503



Cartoon Dave Hackett



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The Athlete's Foot Caloundra

Principal's Acknowledgements

Recently, Mrs Teena Barbeler handed in her resignation and I would like to acknowledge the great contribution that Mrs Barbeler has made to the administration of the School over her three years of service at CCPS. Mrs Cheryl Weight and Mrs Caroline Williams who are both well known to parents, will be taking over responsibilities of the office administration, along with receptionist Mrs Sarah Jurecky.

Congratulations to our **Year 12 students** who have just completed two gruelling days of testing in the Queensland Core Skills Tests. Most students were confident that they had been well prepared and it was very evident that the students worked to the very best of their ability over the two days of testing.

Congratulations to all students involved in the recent 40 Hour Famine. The amount raised has now topped \$3000 which is an outstanding result. Special thanks to Mrs Tralau and the Seniors who led this fundraiser.

Congratulations to **Alexandra Henzell** has been invited by Tennis Queensland to the State Talent Development Camp. It provides an opportunity to bring a group of Queensland's up and coming players together for a three day training camp. It is being held in Brisbane from 15 to 17 October. Well done Alexandra.

Congratulations to **Ella Moore** (Year 5), **Cooper Pointon** (Year 5) **Tayla Pleszkun** (Year 6), **Jack Williams** (Year 7), **Cayla Warwood** (Year 9), **Michael Reynolds** (Year 12) who represented our school at the MLTAQ Japanese speech contest held on Sunday at the Sunshine Coast University.

Michael Reynolds won second place in this prestigious event and will go on to the next round whilst **Ella Moore** and **Cayla Warwood** were highly commended. Well done. We wish Michael all the very best for state finals on the Gold Coast next week.



[Visit the Principal's blog, Edutake](#)

Board Shorts

News from the CCPS Board.

Good news everyone. Work will commence on the new kindergarten, City Stars, early next week. A fence will be constructed around the site between Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Library and the Munns Building and the footpath on the other border. Evans Harch will have builders on site from Monday and parents should also be aware that some of the drop off zone will be impacted by the building project. The builders will endeavour to keep vehicles coming on and off site to non-peak times but there will be occasions when access to the building site will be necessary during student drop off or pick up times.

The project should be finished in readiness for the new school year in 2012 (weather permitting) and like the rest of the great facilities at the school, the City Stars Kindy, will be another outstanding building for the students and staff of the School.

Ask them about the \$5 rebate to CCPS for every pair of shoes purchased by a CCPS family.



Dr Wheatgrass



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Roy Henzell Board Chair



Senior School News

by Gerard Maguire, Dean of Students

Following on from Cath Greens' article in this newsletter regarding Cybersafety issues that exist in our own homes and indeed here at school, within the next week I will be distributing to each family a copy of the small booklet "Cybersmart Guide for Families" which has been sourced from the Australian Communications and Media Authority. It is our hope that you take time to read this document and to share the information with your children.

Associated with the above are the issues we have with the students' use of Facebook. It is important for me to remind/notify parents that the legal minimum age for the use of Facebook is 13 years and the only way to get an account for someone under the age of 13 is to lie about their age. Enough said.

In the real world of course we are always going to have people abusing their responsibility when accessing social networking sites. As a way of assisting our school families with the minefield that is Facebook, we have produced a booklet entitled: "A Parents' Guide to Facebook." This booklet is an extensive coverage of Facebook; how to use it, what the problems are and how to overcome these problems.

Over the next week we will be making this booklet available to all families in the school and we would highly recommend it as a way of assisting you to most effectively deal with what should be an amazingly useful technology. If for some reason you don't receive a copy of "A Parents' Guide to Facebook" and you would like one, please pop in to the office and collect one.

Years 7 - 10 Information Session for Parents

A reminder to all parents of students in Years 7 - 10 in 2012, of the Parent Information Session this evening, (Thursday) in Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Library at 6.30pm. I encourage all parents in these year levels to attend, because subject teachers will be showcasing the range of topics covered in the Intermediate and Senior Years.

Have a great week.



Junior School News

by Catherine Green, Head of Junior School.

Cyber Safety

Mr Maguire has been regularly speaking to students about on-line safety and appropriate internet communication. Over recent weeks staff have dealt with on-line student relationships and communication which occurs at home. Unfortunately, some of these issues are then transferred to school life. Parents want very much to believe that their children would never engage in inappropriate internet communication and are continually surprised to learn about what has occurred. Children from as young as seven years of age are using some of these sites, so the following

information is to assist all parents. Sites such as Facebook are blocked at school but some students are accessing these sites at home.

Psychologist, Andrew Fuller has recently written about cyber relationships which for students are becoming as important as face-to-face ones. He offers the following suggestions for parents and students:

The strength of on-line relationships mirrors the best and at times, the worst of face-to-face relationships. The only problem is that when things go badly on-line, they go really badly. As we know, what goes on the net stays on the net. In fast paced heated interactions in chat rooms, people who are usually friendly and positive can post nasty and hurtful comments with devastating consequences. For this reason, we need to develop netiquette- standards of behaviour for people on-line. Cyber-safety is about relationships and how people behave rather than about technology.

The following guidelines have been compiled from suggestions made by thousands of young people and may be useful to consider or use as a discussion point.

The Suggested Rules of Netiquette.

1. What goes on the net stays on the net.

If you wouldn't do it IRL (in real life) don't do it online. Use the nana rule- if you wouldn't want your nana to know about it, don't put it on the web.

2. Don't ban, plan! Parents should not threaten to ban access to the internet if bullying occurs.

The main reason young people do not tell their parents when they are cyber bullied is because they fear they will lose access to the computer. Parents should let their children know that they will help them to cope with upsetting events online but won't insist they stop using the computer.

3. Take a STAND against cyber-bullying:

Silence – do not respond to abusive messages. The number one rule for dealing with cyberbullying is: don't respond, don't interact and don't engage.

Take a copy of all abusive messages- these may be useful legally later on. Accept that bullies don't think like you do –trying to sort it out with them or asking them to stop won't work.

Never deal with this problem alone- get help!

Don't be provoked.

4. Know that people take cyber-bullying seriously and that you will be taken seriously.

There are legal avenues that can be taken to stop cyber-bullying.

5. Develop a code of Netiquette. Some ideas include:

- Don't bully or be mean to others on-line.
- Let people know that cyber-bullying is a weak and cowardly act of hatred on-line.
- Don't harass or stalk people on-line
- Don't pass on embarrassing photos or posts about others.
- Parents should not allow kids to have webcams in bedrooms. Skype should only be allowed if the computer is in a family room. Chat roulette should be discouraged.
- Only add friends that you know and do not add 'friends of friends'
- If someone on-line wants to meet you in person, ask an adult to accompany you.

6. Be a responsible user of technology.

We need people to be good cyber-citizens. Be honest with yourself. Computer games reduce dopamine. This means it is hard to get motivated to do anything else once you have been on-line for a while. Do your study before you go on-line.

I would really encourage parents to discuss the above points with their children. Cyber safety is being continually discussed and reinforced at school. Please keep a close eye on your child's use of the internet. Some children from very young ages are creating accounts and email addresses under false names and parents are completely unaware. The legal age for a child to create a Facebook account is 13 years of age. It seems that quite often parents are oblivious to the dangers of allowing their children to register for seemingly harmless game sites, children's clubs and Facebook. Emphasise that your child is not to share their password with anyone but their parents and that there are serious consequences for inappropriate net etiquette.

When used appropriately, social media networking can be a fun and useful tool. Please assist this to be the case and be watchful of your children.

NAPLAN

Naplan results are due within the coming weeks. If possible, they will be distributed to parents before the end of this term; otherwise they will be posted during the holidays.

Prep to Year 3 Athletics

On Friday, 8 September, students in Prep to Year 3 will celebrate the conclusion of their Athletics unit with their own athletics carnival. A coffee van and barbeque have been organised by the P and F. Parents are welcome to take their children home at the conclusion of the carnival.

Interviews

Last week parents would have received a hard copy of a letter and the information for the on-line booking for interviews. Please ensure that you have booked in for your Term 3 interview.

Cricket

There are students from Years 4 to 7 playing in an inter-school competition this afternoon against St Andrew Anglican College. It will be a practice match in preparation for the Qld Cricket T20 Blast Primary School Competition in Term 4 which we have entered. They have been training hard and we wish them the best for their match. Thank you to Mr Dever for his commitment to enable this to occur.



Library and I.T. News

Cartoon Dave Hackett.

As part of Bookweek last week we had a visit from author, illustrator and TV presenter, Dave Hackett who enthralled all the students with his cartoon antics. Students all over the school were doodling cartoon characters after being inspired by Dave's sessions. For those students who wanted to order any of Dave's books, I will be placing the official bulk order Friday afternoon 2nd September. Dave has very kindly offered to personally autograph each book for the students.

Quote of the week: *"Kind words are worth much but they cost little" ~ Proverb*

Senior School Leaders News

It's over! The Queensland Core Skills Tests for 2011 have been completed. I think we speak on behalf of everyone in our cohort when we say we are glad we have completed the tests. We had a 'Golden' time, sometimes looking at tasks we saw as 'Rubix' cubes and completing them to the best of our ability. (Gold and Rubix Cubes being just some of our topics on the test papers).

A huge thank you must go to Mrs Stuart for preparing us all year for this two day formal testing period, and to Miss Macks for supervising us on the days and all the hard work behind the scenes she has put in to ensuring our success. Thank you other staff members too for helping us through this intense assessment period.

In the final two weeks of Term 3 many exciting events are taking place for students in all year levels, Excellence Forums, Athletics Carnival for Prep – Year 3 and camps for Years 2, 6 and 7! This is a fantastic time for these students and all others to reflect on what so far has been a fantastic year and looking forward to what is in store in Term 4.

We wish all Dads a fantastic Father's Day, and quietly remind all students who haven't quite bought a gift yet to visit the P&F's stall selling gifts in the Library tomorrow.

Hoping everyone has a fantastic week.

Until Next Time,
Rhiannon, Alex, Olivia, Jake
Caloundra City Private School Captains

Parents & Friends Association Meetings

Next meeting Monday 12th September at 6.30pm in the library.
All welcome.

Email: pandf@ccs.qld.edu.au



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Pelican Waters Boulevard
Pelican Waters, 4551 QLD
PO Box 517, Caloundra 4551 QLD
Ph: 5437 5850 | Fax: 5437 5855 | Email: pelicansnest@ccs.qld.edu.au

Parents and Friends News

FATHER'S DAY STALL

On Friday, 2 September, the P & F will be holding a Father's Day stall in the Dame Elizabeth Murdoch Library. Students will visit the Stall in their class groups during the morning to give them the opportunity to purchase a gift for their Dad, Grandfather or Special Friend.

The P and F have again sourced a wide selection of gifts and have priced them to sell at between \$2 and \$10. Gifts include books, photo frames, cooler bags, mouse pads and wet packs to name just a few. They are also raffling a Father's Day gift bag full of goodies for Dad and tickets are 50 cents. The raffle will be drawn at the close of the stall, and the prize will be delivered to the winner's classroom. Please help by supporting this initiative.



FESTIVE FAIR RAFFLE

One of the biggest single fundraisers for our school is the annual Mega Raffle. Last year the raffle raised \$3300 with sales of tickets to school families and friends. It was unfortunate we were unable to sell to visitors of the Carols which may have given us the opportunity to perhaps double that amount.

This year the raffle will be a feature of the Festive Fair and already a few wonderful prizes have been donated but we need more prizes to ensure the raffle is even more successful than last year and to entice visitors at our fair to purchase lots of tickets.

All families or business sponsors who donate a prize will be listed in the fair program, plus printed raffle tickets will show details of the prize and sponsor name.

Sponsors of major prizes will be offered the opportunity to display a banner or other signage at the fair.

The raffle tickets are printed early October so anyone donating a raffle prize will need to provide details of the prize by Friday 16th September.

If any family or business would like to donate a raffle prize please contact me with details by email or phone (below).

Many thanks for your support.

Pam Southern
southern48@bigpond.com
0438 543 800

40 Hour Famine

This year CCPS had approximately 40 students from Years 6 to 12 participate in the 2011 40 Hour Famine, giving up something important to them for 40 hours to raise awareness and funds to fight global hunger.

Students chose to go without food, technology, speaking and furniture in support of the cause. The group completed their famine successfully during school and home time last



week. As a group, they set a target of raising \$2500 and are well on their way to achieving this, thanks to support from parents, friends and staff. We have a current total exceeding \$3000.



World Vision expects around 300,000 young people from Australia will this year go without something important to them to raise money for this worthy cause. Nearly one billion people around the globe suffer from chronic hunger (Source: Unicef). This year, the 40 Hour Famine focuses on our closest neighbours in East Timor, just 600km from Darwin, where malnutrition affects nearly half of all children.

Once more, thank you to all participants for your efforts and for everyone in the CCPS community for their ongoing support of our students.

Mrs Lauren Tralau
Senior School Teacher

Crowne Plaza, Pelican Waters - Charity event

Cienna Restaurant and Bar (located within Crowne Plaza Pelican Waters) in association with Taylors Wine have organised a special evening to help promote the National White Ribbon Campaign. This event will help promote and create awareness on the Sunshine Coast to seek further support to eliminate violence against women. The evening will be hosted by Taylor's wine's and White Ribbon Ambassador Adam Johnson.



Details:

What – 6 Course Dinner with matching wines and Lucky Door Prizes.

Where – Cienna Restaurant, Lobby level Crowne Plaza Pelican Waters

When – Thursday 15th September 2011 6.00pm arrival for 6.30pm start

Cost - \$100.00 per person

Bookings essential- Call Megan on 07 5437 4635.

Student Banking

Student banking includes a great Rewards Program that promotes good savings. Every time your child makes a deposit at school, they receive a Dollarmites token After collecting 10 tokens they can be redeemed for exclusive Dollarmites reward items such as money boxes, wallet, water bottle, lunch box and watch.

The program is a fun and rewarding way to educate children on how to save. If your child has opened an account, please remember to send their banking in each week on WEDNESDAYS.

If your child does not have a school banking account and would like to participate, please contact Nicole on 0422 945 803 or theobservatory@bigpond.com and we will give your child a pack to take home which includes an application form for you to complete.



Banking Tip for the Week:

Encourage your child to complete the deposit slip themselves - don't do it for them! Remember your child is developing money management skills.

Janice Benjamin and Nicole Hood

PS. We will be giving out a random prize each week to students who make a school bank deposit. Prizes include pencils, bag tags, beach balls, and much more!!

Excellence Integrity Learning Excellence Integrity Learning Excellence Integrity Learning

How to Contribute: email copy and images to admin@ccs.qld.edu.au by Tuesday 3pm

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