Dirk Wellham inducted as new Principal of Caloundra City Private School

Highly-respected educator and former Test cricketer Dirk Wellham was officially inducted as the Principal of Caloundra City Private School in a special ceremony on Thursday, February 14.

More than 50 invited guests plus students, teachers and other staff attended the induction ceremony where Dr Wellham committed himself to the role of educational leader of the school.

School Chairman Roy Henzell said it was a tremendous honour to have a Principal of the calibre of Dr Wellham heading the school.

“Dr Wellham adds a whole new dimension to the school with his outstanding leadership qualities, sporting background and educational qualifications,” Mr Henzell said.

“Through his teaching and life he is the perfect candidate to uphold the school’s visions of excellence, integrity and learning.

“We are very fortunate to now officially induct Dr Wellham, a man whose leadership and passion will provide the highest levels of pastoral, academic and moral guidance to those who learn and teach in the Pelican Waters community,” Mr Henzell said.

Dr Wellham spoke about the significance of the Osprey being the symbol in the school’s crest, saying it was a powerful, graceful and beautiful bird, heralded by writers and observers through the ages for embodying all characteristics of the school’s motto – Excellence, Integrity and Learning.

The importance of family was also a key element of his address.

“I want to thank my wife today….amongst cricket tours, school duties and marking of English papers, and further study, over thirty years, whilst our James, Sam and Annabelle energetically explored and learned…I could not have done it without her,” Dr Wellham said.

“Barbara and I want for you with your children in making their part of the school’s history, the same joy that we have shared in our own fledglings’ adventures in finding Excellence, Integrity and Learning, as they fly high at Caloundra City,” he said.

During the ceremony Dr Wellham was presented with symbols of the school community including a book on the history of Caloundra City, a crystal globe of the world, a large printed aerial view of the school and an Osprey artwork comprising children’s handprints as feathers.

Dr Wellham comes to Caloundra City Private School with a distinguished background in teaching, having been Deputy Headmaster (Academic) at Brisbane’s Anglican Church Grammar School for the past eight years and also serving at The King’s School in Sydney, the Hutchins School in Hobart, Blue Mountains Grammar School and The Southport School on the Gold Coast.

He has a PhD in education from Deakin University.
As a cricketer, he played six Tests and 17 ODIs for Australia from 1981 to 1987. He was the first player to captain three Australian states (NSW, Tas & Qld) during his career and one of only two players to score a century in both his first class and Test debuts.

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