From the Principal

Life gives us brief moments with another...
But sometimes, in those brief moments
We get memories that last a lifetime.

Some people keep a diary, I keep a dictionary. Yes, a dictionary. Don’t ask me how this happened because I couldn’t tell you but my dictionary is full of memories and mementos of years gone by. My dictionary isn’t a particularly expensive book and it’s somewhat battered around the edges now, but the memories stored in it are priceless.

These memories represent the passing thirty years in different schools and small and big moments in my personal life. The first page includes my name and under it is written, “Carpe diem – Seize the day”, which is something that stirs me and motivates me, to always make the most of every moment.

There are happy holiday snaps, postcards from exotic places that I or good friends have travelled to over the years, funny cartoons that make me laugh out loud. The Far Side collection is my favourite.

A man is sitting on an airplane looking out at the clouds drifting by in the sky. There is a panel at his right hand, which has all the usual buttons: volume, channel, light switch, steward alert and on the left side is a button that reads: ‘wings stay on’ and below this: ‘wings fall off’. The caption reads:

“Fumbling for his recline button, Ted unwittingly instigates a disaster.”

(Okay, maybe this is a ‘location’ joke.)

Photos of family events feature in the dictionary, which record moments of absolute bliss and success with my husband John and children – everything from learning to sailboard, floating on Blue Lake at Straddie in a dinghy, children playing netball, rugby and cricket, accepting awards at Speech Night, graduating from university and most of all, just enjoying family events.

Photos and notes from good friends who make me smile, fill my
Term Four Ends
12 Noon
Thursday 29th November

The Staff at CCPS wish all our families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year

See you all in 2013

Dictionary. Good friends are like diamonds that sparkle in any light and even in darkness. Good friends are the ones who know all about you and like you anyway. The gift of their friendship calls out to me from the pages, reminding me that even on the darkest of days, there can still be a reason to smile and to hope for a better future.

There are thank you cards from parents, students and colleagues. Beautiful Valentine’s Day cards, special Christmas cards also kept for reflection, including a lovely Christmas card written by Riordon, David and Natarsha Turner at the end of my first year at CCPS, which I treasure.

A potpourri of photos of school related events like Anzac Day marches, graduations, formals, semi-formals, Foundation Days; photos of Professor Ian Frazer, and who can forget his description of going to a ‘pirate school’? Who can forget superstar, John Newcombe and the amazingly ‘young’, grand Dame Elisabeth Murdoch?

Poignant photos found in my dictionary, remind me of generous people in my life, like that of the School’s Patrons – Judy Henzell and the late Joan Ford, Cec and the late Noeline Munns – all people who have given so much to Caloundra City Private School. How can we ever repay their kindness?

Perhaps the saddest of these mementos are those that mark the death of someone very young. It reminds me of how fragile life can be and the transiency of all that is precious to us. One that always makes me pause to consider this fragility is of a past Year 11 student who died tragically in a car accident in 2001. Her beautiful face smiles out from the pages and the inscription below written by her grieving parents reads:

“Gone from our sight
But never our memories
Gone from our touch
But never our hearts.”

We really can’t take too much in life for granted, can we? Nothing lasts forever. All things come to an end and in my mind, it is all the more reason to ‘seize the day’ and make the very most of every moment. With this in mind I will be embarking on a new journey in 2013 and look forward to this new chapter in my life.

I take with me many wonderful memories of CCPS – mainly of the people that I have been fortunate enough to know: wonderful teachers, fabulous administrative and auxiliary staff, amazing students (past and present), and supportive and caring parents. To the outstanding executive team of Ms Stuart, Mr Maguire, Mrs Frisby and Mrs Short I thank you for your amazing skills, talents, loyalty and leadership of the School.

My creed, (also found in my dictionary), is very simple and this creed is one that I borrowed from George Bernard Shaw and would like to share:

This is the true joy in life,
The being used for a purpose
Recognized by yourself as a mighty one.
The being a force of nature
Instead of a feverish, little clod of ailments
And grievances, complaining that the world
Will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to
The whole community and as long as I live,
It is my privilege to do for it what I can.
I want to be thoroughly used up when I die,
For the harder I work, the more I live.
I rejoice in life for its own sake.
Life is no brief candle to me.
It is a sort of splendid torch
Which I have got hold of for the moment
And I want to make it burn as brightly
As possible before handing it on to future generations.
Thank you to everyone who has been part of my journey at Caloundra City Private School. I am leaving you now, but you will always be a part of who I am and part of you will always live in my heart. I wish you all the very best for the future. So in this, my last newsletter, I thank you for all of the wonderful experiences I have shared with you on this journey.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday.

**Karon Graham**
**Principal**

Visit the Principal’s blog, Edutake

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**Senior School News**

*by Amanda Stuart, Head of Senior School.*

Last week marked another great milestone for our school with our third group of Year 12 students graduating. We have seen their final Speech Night before undertaking their Valedictory and final assembly. I arrived at Caloundra City Private School when they were boisterous Year 9 students (many shorter than me). So it has been amazing to witness this group of Year 12’s transition from students to young adults. As a group, they have provided so much humour, trepidation and finally leadership and strength to the School. I could not be prouder of their efforts this year.

2012 is quickly drawing to a close and we have had a wonderful year of entertainment showcasing the talents of our students and indeed the staff. (Will I ever erase Mrs Graham’s impersonation of Christina Aguilera from my mind?)

Next week sees the beginning of the leadership journey for our current Year 11 students. They will be providing assistance and support across all areas of the school. Their week culminates in coordinating and facilitating our final Activities Day for 2012 held at Kings Beach next Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs Wearmouth for her organisation of this fun day.

Activities days and extracurricular events promote a connectedness and a positive attitude to school as well as supporting engagement and wellbeing. Research suggests that motivating student learning is about creating a positive school culture, having high expectations and tracking outcomes. While creating engagement and wellbeing is about relationships and fun experiences, a strong leadership culture is important if these goals are to be realised. Goals and objectives must be set that are easily understood and shared by all staff.

**Free Dress Day**

This Friday the 23rd of November, we are having a Free Dress Day and our School Rock Band will be putting on a lunchtime Concert to raise funds for Mrs Fiona Sawyer and Logan Hanckel. Mrs Fiona Sawyer has recently been diagnosed with breast cancer and is undergoing treatment at the moment. Logan is a Year 6 student at Caloundra City Private School and has recently been awarded the Young Sportsperson of the Year Award at the NSW Sports Awards Ceremony. Logan has also been offered a scholarship to a prestigious ski school in Italy over the Australian summer.

Students are encouraged to wear free dress and donate a gold coin. We also ask that students bring a gold coin for entry to the lunchtime concert. Students must wear suitable clothing that includes a pair of closed in shoes, a hat and no singlet or midriff tops. Please support these worthy fundraising events.

I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Karon Graham for her visionary leadership and promoting such a positive school culture. We wish Mrs Graham all the best as she embarks upon the next phase of her professional journey.

I extend my deepest thanks to the Senior Staff, Mrs Graham, Mrs
Junior School News

by Mrs Gabrielle Frisby, Head of Junior School

Junior School Assembly
Thank you to Ms Sneesby and the students from 3GF for your wonderful presentation on assembly yesterday. Congratulations to all the students who received Merit Certificates for the great work they have been doing in class. I look forward to seeing you all at the Junior School Assemblies in 2013.

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Culminating Dates
To conclude the year parents of students in Years Prep to Year 6 have been invited to the class culminating events and end of year celebrations. The dates and times for classes are as follows:

- Kindy - 2.15pm on Tuesday 27th November
- Prep FS – 2pm on Monday 26th November
- PrepLT – 2pm on Monday 26th November
- 1JH – 2pm Monday 26th November
- 1/2KC – 2pm Tuesday 27th November
- 2NB – 8.45am on Tuesday 27th of November
- 3GF – 12.45pm on Wednesday 28th November
- 4KR – 9am on Wednesday 28th November
- 5ND – 2pm Tuesday 27th November
- 6GM – 2pm Monday 26th November
- 6KB – 2pm Monday 26th November

Booklists
Parents should have received your letter regarding the 2013 Booklists. Booklists are available on-line now and until the 7th December. Delivery will occur in the week beginning the 7th of January, 2013. If you are not able to order on-line, and require a paper copy of the order form, please notify your child’s class teacher.

Arrangements for Next Week
- Junior School reports will be available on Parent Lounge from Wednesday afternoon. If you do not have your Parent Lounge log-in, please email Ms Grant at dgrant@ccs.qld.edu.au before Monday, to ensure that you have access.
- At culminating events for Kindy to Year 4, certificates will be presented to students to celebrate their successes for the year.
- Students will visit their 2013 classroom and teacher prior to our final assembly on Thursday.
- The final Assembly for this year will be held on Thursday the 29th November at 11am. The school year concludes at midday.

End of Year Wishes

Frisby, Mr Maguire and Mrs Short for their support throughout 2012.

Finally I wish all at CCPS a safe, happy and holy Christmas.
The next week of school will pass incredibly quickly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every family for their kindness and support throughout 2012. We, as a school community have many accomplishments to be proud of this year and the events of recent weeks confirm what a wonderful school community we have. It takes the staff, parents and students working together to build what we have and I am very proud of our school and what we offer. Best wishes to every family for a very happy holiday and a joyous Christmas.

Class News
from PrepFS

PrepFS Procedure Pirates!
In Prep this term, the students have been learning how to write procedural texts. They have created their very own posters outlining the instructions on how to make a special item or how to complete a simple task. Skye taught us how to wash a car by providing each student with the necessary items so we could role play. Mirabelle taught us how to make a grass head in a cup. Each student has taken their cup home in anxious anticipation of the grass growing in to 'hair.' Tyson recorded a video to show us the instructions for playing a game of handball. These are just a few examples of the innovative presentations that PrepFS students have produced.

It has been very rewarding to see the children using loud and confident voices when presenting their posters to the class. It has been equally entertaining listening to the questions that they are asking one another about the level of assistance required to make such amazing posters and PowerPoint presentations.

During class, we have been learning to read procedures and follow the instructions independently. Making newspaper pirate hats was definitely a highlight! We spent the next hour speaking with pirate accents and playing in our make believe pirate ship (made out of blocks and Lego). Oh what fun it is to be young!

Miss Fi Scurfield

Library News

Holiday borrowing:
Students from Years 1 to 12 are permitted to borrow books from the CCPS library provided they don't have any overdue books at present.

Sunshine Coast Library - Caloundra
Visit your local library and art gallery situated opposite the Council building in Omrah Avenue with the kids during the holidays. There's lots to see, do and borrow with their 'Toy Library', 'Curious Corner', Storytelling and many holiday crafts and events. The best part is it's all free!


Mr Steven Rattey and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a safe and happy Christmas. Enjoy this special time with your families. See you again next year. Keep smiling....it’s contagious.

Final quote of the year: ‘That awkward moment when Santa has the same wrapping paper as your mum.’ - Unknown.
Parents & Friends Association Meetings

Our next meeting will be held in 2013. Thank you to all who have supported our fundraising events throughout 2012. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Email: pandf@ccs.qld.edu.au

Hat Blocking Service

A Hat Cleaning service for formal hats will be provided over the holidays. We ask that the hats be dropped off to Administration on the last day of school and they will be collected on the first day of school 2013.

All hats need to be clearly marked with child's name and placed in a plastic bag.

Correct change to be handed in along with the hat.

Boys Felt Hat and Girls Panama Hat clean, stiffen and reblock $25
Prep – Year 2 Cotton Hat $15

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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