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2012 Term Dates

Term 1:
- Monday 23rd January to Thursday 29th March

Term 2:
- Tuesday 17th April to Thursday 21st June

Term 3:
- Tuesday 17th July to Thursday 20th September

Term 4:
- Tuesday 9th October to Thursday 29th November - 12 noon

Dates To Remember

Junior Athletic Carnival
- Prep - Year 3
- Friday 7th September

Year 6 Canberra Trip
- 16-21 September

From the Principal

"Is it so important to get somewhere in a big hurry, or isn’t it better to take your time, one step at a time and methodically reach the destination in a more efficient way? There is an attraction……to say, “How fast can I get there?” …Well it took Columbus, a long time to sail across the ocean. It took Magellan half a year to travel around the world, maybe even longer.” (Buzz Aldrin, p22, “Wisdom”)

It was US President John F. Kennedy in 1961 who first announced that America would send men to the moon. In July 1969, three astronauts blasted off into space: Neil Armstrong, (who sadly died recently), Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, (former second lieutenant and Rhodes scholar) and Michael Collins. The landing of Apollo 11 on the moon had a profound impact on human psyche; the last frontier was at last within our grasp. Humans could now travel further, and at greater speed, than in any other time in the history of humankind.

Maybe it’s because of Aldrin’s travel into outer space that has put his perspective on life, in a much longer time frame and in a bigger picture. His views on the world, our thirst for knowledge and time, are insightful. So why are we in such a hurry these days? Why don’t we enjoy the journey as much as the destination?

"Are we there yet?" still echoes in my mind, as we travelled with our children on long road trips. Any attempts to distract them with cows, mountains, books or signs failed miserably. If you have been on a road trip to north Queensland recently, you may have noticed some funny road signs, that a council worker with a great sense of humour, has had erected along a particularly boring stretch of highway that read, "Are we there Yet?", and twenty kilometres further, "Nearly there Kids."

It seems that when we are very young, time stretches on for eternity and no more so than when trapped in a car hurtling towards some unknown destination. What is it though that makes us want to be in such a hurry? Is it in our DNA to be so impatient? Why is it that we want to ‘be there’ now, rather than in two weeks time or an hour? What’s our big hurry?
When we’re young, we’re in a hurry to grow up, to learn to drive, to get a car, to leave home and become more independent. (Though latest observations show that younger people are living at home well into their thirties now, but that’s another story.) Time is relative isn’t it? Well ‘yes’ according to Einstein, yet it doesn’t take a genius, to figure out that a month as a proportion of your life as a five year old is way larger than that of a thirty year old.

As we grow older, we realise that time is not infinite. Indeed, time seems to speed up. We realise too, that we still have so much to learn about people, places and life. Even though each of us has been on a long personal journey, we are still learning about life and we are still learning about wisdom. Life throws at us, lots of ‘curved balls’, obstacles, challenges as well as good helpings of happiness and heartache along the way. The ‘getting of wisdom’ is not a simple or easy thing. As French author, Marcel Proust, wrote:

“We don’t receive wisdom; we must discover it for ourselves after a journey that no one can take for us or spare us.”

Like the chrysalis that must fight its way out of its cocoon, to be transformed into a beautiful butterfly, it seems too, that we humans must fight our own way out of the cocoon of protection that our family provides for us as children. Either speeding the process up or down is not necessarily a good thing. Nor will the outcome be better for our children if we ‘hover and intervene’ on their behalf for too long. Like the caterpillar that shrivels and dies if it is pulled out of its cocoon without doing the battle itself, so too will our children lack the resilience and the independence to prosper along the journey of life, if we act too hastily to intervene by trying to protect our children from life’s lessons. Where is the wisdom learnt?

“There is such a thing as communication time of travel” (Buzz Aldrin)

What would the world be like if President John F. Kennedy had lived? What would a person’s life be like if they had not lived through a personal tragedy? These imponderable questions are the theme of Stephen King’s book, “11.22.63”. The plot centres on the possibilities of travelling back in time – to change the course of history to see what different outcomes may have resulted by an intervention by a person to prevent President Kennedy from being assassinated or to prevent a family tragedy.

Would the world be a better place? Would a person be happier for not having to live through a personal tragedy? Would they be a better person or a more successful person? Philosophically we can only speculate. We can’t say with any certainty whether the outcome would be better or worse and like the old Chinese proverb says, “Maybe so, Maybe not.”

There’s an underlying truth in the Greek philosopher Heraclitus’ observation from c.500BC, that:

“No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it’s not the same river and he’s not the same man.”

There it is. Even if we were to change the course of our own personal history (yes, we all have a few regrets and things that we wish we could change), there are no guarantees that the outcome would be better, or we would be happier or that life somehow would become magically more perfect. Perhaps this is why so many philosophers and poets write about the journey of life. Isn’t it really a question about how we view life’s journey and what our attitude is to what happens to us along the way that is more important than any ultimate destination?

Some adversity makes us stronger than we could ever imagine we could be. Some challenges make us more resilient and better able to cope with the ‘small speed bumps’ in life. Some tragedies can transform us into a better person than we might have been otherwise. Overcoming these challenges can motivate and inspire us to become the best we can be.
"The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same. Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination."
(Don Williams Jr., American novelist and poet)

Life’s journey is never straightforward, is it? Isn’t it in the ‘twists and turns’ though, that true wisdom is learned?

To our Year 12 QCS students who wrote about “getting there” in this year’s Writing Task, I thank you for all of your hard work over the last two days and know that you have worked to the very best of your ability. Thank you to Ms Stuart who has prepared our students so well for the QCST.

We wish all Year 12 students well in your forthcoming exams and trust that you will achieve well in your tests.

Earlier in the week, we farewelled Lauren Mulhearn and Luka Dale, who this week headed off to Scotland for a wonderful six week Exchange at the Lathallian School in Johnshaven. Emily Rava, TJ Bindon and Justin Faa are also on Exchange at the moment in Canada for six weeks at Rundle College. We look forward to receiving lots of photographs and news from the students as they skype and email back home. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience travel to another country at such a young age and the friendships formed with the Exchange families will be for many students, life altering.

Karon Graham
Principal

Principal's Acknowledgments:
We wish Mikayla Coleman (Year 8) all the very best as she represents Queensland at the Australian Taekwondo Championships this weekend. A fantastic achievement Mikayla.

Visit the Principal’s blog, Edutake

Senior School News

by Amanda Stuart, Head of Senior School.

Participation in co-curricular activities that support student learning and personal development is a priority in our education program. There can be no question about the many opportunities for students to extend their educational experience and the commitment of staff at this school to ensure that students have those activities. Many of our students make very good use of these opportunities whether it is through sport, homework club or tutorials. Please encourage your son or daughter to attend co-curricular activities and tutorials when they are offered. Many thanks to Mrs Michelle Murphy for her initiative with co-curricular sport and the newly formed OZTAG team, Mr Pederson for his continuing work with the Volunteering Program and Mrs Tralau for the organisation of the Year 12 Driver Awareness Program, 40hour Famine and Year Book committee.

By the time this newsletter is emailed, the QCS test will be completed for another year. The famous scientist Albert Einstein said:

"We have to do the best we can. This is our sacred human responsibility”.

Certainly, our Year 12 students were living testimony to this on Tuesday and Wednesday when they sat for the gruelling two day test.

Maybe ironically, the topic for the writing task was ‘Are we there yet?’ I guess the answer for Year 12 students is, "No we are not!" Each Year 12 student is encouraged to keep pushing forward and really finish this term and next with determination and perseverance.

Congratulations to each and every student for putting in their best effort with QCS. I would like to extend a big thank you to Mrs. Kay Green and Mrs. Anita Holmes for being our Chief Community representatives and
Miss Macks for being a Supervisor.

With the majority of the Year 10 Set Plan interviews completed, I hope that the information we have provided for students and parents has been helpful in considering subject choices for 2013. By selecting courses now for 2013, students have the opportunity to work to meet pre-requisites and to achieve the highest possible results for access to the courses and pathways of their choice developing their education prospects beyond the school environment. All students in Year 10 are required to complete their subject selections and return their signed form to their Head of House by Monday. We wish all Year 10 students the very best of luck with their work experience placements next week.

It is common understanding that literacy and numeracy are vital for meeting the everyday requirements of life, but the value of digital literacy is often placed outside of this essential skill set. Caloundra City Private School was one of the first schools to recognise the importance of digital literacy and offered a one to one laptop program well before most other schools in Queensland. Understanding and using technology has become indispensable to the creation of an inclusive learning community where all students have access to industry standard programs and technologies. However, with this benefit comes responsibility on behalf of the student. Many of our students disappointedly are using their machines in school time for reasons other than education. From next term any student observed not acting responsibly with their lap top will have an immediate after school Thursday detention.

Currently we have Emily Rava, Justin Faa and TJ Bindon attending school in Canada and Lauren Mulhearn and Luka Dale attending school in a castle in Scotland (Harry Potter style). This amazing journey provides a tremendous sense of accomplishment and the new perspective often encourages students to strive to attain fresh goals. We know that the students we have selected will be excellent ambassadors for our school and we will look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return in Term 4.

Emily Rava (pictured in Canada)

Junior School News

by Mrs Gabrielle Frisby, Head of Junior School

**Prep to Year 3 Athletics Carnival**

Tomorrow, Friday the 7th of September, students from Prep to Year 3 will celebrate the conclusion of their Athletics unit with their own Athletics Carnival. The Carnival will commence at 8.45am and conclude at approximately 12.45pm. The tuckshop will be open during the Carnival and parents are welcome to take their children home at the conclusion of the carnival.

**Tuckshop Procedures for Junior School Students**

Students from Prep to Year 6 are reminded that they are to order their lunches using the bag system. There have been a few incidents in which students have been buying their friends food items at break times. To ensure that parents are aware of what their child is eating at school we will no longer have any students from Prep to Year 3 purchasing items from the tuckshop with money. Students from Years 4 to 6 will be allowed to purchase ice-blocks after the 10 minute eating time at each
break but need to order their lunches using the bag system.

**Bag System**
1. Please write lunch orders on a paper bag for morning tea and lunch separately. Write the student’s name, class and which lunch break the order is for on the front of the bag and place the money inside.
2. Students place the bag/s in the Tuckshop Box in the classroom before school.
3. Lunch orders are delivered to the classroom at the beginning of each break.

Bags are available from the tuckshop.

**Junior School Assembly**
The final Junior School Assembly for this term will be held at 2.30pm on Wednesday the 12th September. Students from the PrepLT and 1JH classes will be making a presentation and Merit Certificates will be awarded to selected students from each class. All parents, grandparents and friends are encouraged to join the students from the Junior School at this assembly.

**Parent Teacher 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 as on-line booking close tomorrow, Friday the 7th September.

**Prep to Year 6 Culminating Events**
The end of Term is fast approaching and students are very excited to be preparing for their class culminating event so they can share with their parents, grandparents and friends all the new things they have learnt and all the wonderful activities they have participated in over the Term. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome to attend these culminating events and the date and time for each class is as follows:

- PrepFS – Tuesday 18th September – 2.15pm
- Prep LT – Wednesday 19th September – 9am
- Year 1/2KC – Monday 17th September – 2pm
- Year 1 – Monday 17th September – 2pm
- Year 2 – Thursday 13th September – 8.45am
- Year 3 – Tuesday 18th September – 2pm
- Year 4 – Wednesday 19th September – 2pm
- Year 5 – Wednesday 19th September – 2pm
- Year 6 – Friday 12th October – 2pm (Term 4)

**Kindergarten and Prep News**
City Stars Kindergarten is pleased to announce the appointment of a Kindergarten assistant to commence in Term 4, 2012. With this appointment we are now able to open enrolments again for 2012. If you are interested in your child commencing Kindergarten in Term 4, 2012 or Term 1, 2013 please contact Administration on 54375800.

We are finalising interviews for Prep for 2013 and I have also begun the process of confirming enrolments for the Kindergarten class of 2013. To commence Prep your child needs to turn 5 by 30th of June, 2013 and to begin Kindergarten a child needs to be 4 by 30th of June, 2013. If you have not yet organised an interview for Prep or completed an enrolment form for Kindergarten, please contact Administration as soon as possible, as places are limited.

**Class News**
**3GF’s Movie Studio**
3! 2! 1! Roll Cameras! The budding movie directors in 3GF have been working hard and demonstrating persistence in creating history documentaries in Microsoft Movie Maker. We are learning the process of making informative and interesting documentaries including adding sound tracks, images and important information to entertain and educate people.

3GF students have been inquiring into the history of migration to Australia. We have investigated the major migration events including The First Fleet and The Gold Rush and the reasons why people have
come to Australia. In the coming weeks we will be looking at the current issues of migration including the recent influx of boat people. The process of making movies has challenged us as a class and we have learnt the benefits of collaboration and the patience of problem solving. We are looking forward to sharing our movies with our families during our culmination event on Tuesday the 18th September.

Library and I.C.T. News

Overdue library books
CCPS students are very good at returning their library books but there are just a few books that are well overdue. I will be sending out overdue notices next week to those students who have not returned their books. It would be appreciated if parents could encourage these children to have a good look at home for the books.

Parents welcome in the library
All parents are welcome and encouraged to visit the library with their children to assist and encourage them with their reading. Students who are accompanied by a parent/carer are permitted to borrow up to six books at a time.

Mother’s Tip of the Week: Adolescents are children who’ve stopped asking questions because they now know all the answers. ~ Jasmine Birtles.

Sport News

Interschool Sport Results
Next week will be the last round of interschool sport for the Term. We will kick off Term 4 with a whole new exciting choice of activities, utilising the local facilities. Well done to all of the teams this week.

Volleyball
Boys – DRAW King of the court
Girls – DRAW King of the court

Boys AFL
Game 1 City (26) vs GHCCC (33)
Game 2 City (29) vs CCC (32)

Girls Basketball
Game 1 City (2) vs GHCCC (20)

Girls Touch Football
Game 1 City (1) vs GHCCC (3)
Game 2 City (0) vs CCC (7)

Boys Futsal
Game 1 City (2) vs GHCCC (7)
Game 2 City (2) vs CCC (5)

Girls Futsal
Game 1 City (1) vs GHCCC (2)
Game 2 City (3) vs CCC (4)

Mixed Cricket
This game is a continuous game that plays out over three weeks and our students did a fantastic job, playing with determination.

**OZTAG Competition**
A number of students ranging from Year One through to Year Eight have been training for the Oztag Competition that starts next Monday for Juniors and Wednesday for Seniors. The games will be held at the Rugby Union Grounds in Arthur Street, Caloundra. Please come down and support these students.

The draw for the competition will be up on their website tomorrow (Friday 7th September) [http://www.caloundraoztag.com/](http://www.caloundraoztag.com/)

Good luck to all players, I know how hard you have been training.

**Rugby Union Competition**
Under 9/10 Rugby team played yesterday against three schools and managed to walk away with three out of three wins.

Congratulations to all players, your hard work and commitment to this team is extremely evident. Thank you to all of the supporters and parents who attended to support our players.

- Caloundra S.S 1 – 4 CCPS
- Talara S.S 0 – 6 CCPS
- Unity College 4 – 5 CCPS

**Prep to Year 3 Athletics Carnival**
The Prep to Year 3 Athletics Carnival will be held tomorrow on the school oval. All student in these years will be trying their hardest at Javelin, Shot-put, Discus, Long Jump, Ball Games and Sprints. All parents and friends are welcome to come down and support the runners. The tuckshop will be open during the Carnival.


Good luck to all students competing in this Carnival.

**Parents & Friends Association Meetings**
Next meeting Friday 14th September at 8.45am in the library. Come and have a cuppa with friends.

Email: pandf@ccs.qld.edu.au

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**P and F Association News**

**Woolies Sticker Chart Competition**
Junior School Winners – 1/2KC 12,960 stickers  
Senior House Winners – Ford 3,630 stickers  
Each winner gets to choose resources to the value of $200 for the school.

**Father’s Day Stall**
We hope all Dads enjoyed their day on Sunday. Thank you to the families who supported our Father’s Day Stall last Friday. Together we raised over $500 for our school.

**Student Banking News**

**Tip of the Week:**
Show your child their bank statement when it arrives to help them understand the benefits of saving their money – don’t forget to show them the total balance.

Nicole Hood, Student Banking Co-ordinator

Excellence Integrity Learning Excellence Integrity Learning Excellence Integrity Learning

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