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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

Year 12 QCS Test
Tuesday 4th & Wednesday 5th September

Junior Athletics Carnival
Prep - Year 3
Friday 7th September

From the Principal

"The greatest achievement was at first and for a time a dream. The oak sleeps in the acorn, the bird waits in the egg, and in the highest vision of the soul a waking angel stirs. Dreams are the seedlings of realities." (James Allen)

What a wonderful notion that great possibilities or achievements lie dormant in all of us? For some people the dream becomes a reality but unfortunately for others, the dream or aspiration is never realised. Why?

Hundreds of books have been written about achieving success and back-stories and histories of successful people and not surprisingly, there is no one single factor that brings about their ultimate success or why others fail.

Malcolm Gladwell suggests in his 2008 book “Outliers: The Story of Success” that success has more to do with good luck and circumstance than anything else. Success is a serendipitous event where a person is born in the right place at the right time with the right resources. Think, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs living in Silicon Valley, California in the early sixties. Gladwell does note though, that practice in a skill is all important to later success.

Other authors like Sir Ken Robinson argue that some people have innate talents that are unleashed by their passion and ‘being in the flow’ amongst similarly talented and creative people. In his 2009 book, “The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything”, Robinson shares many stories of famous people who only started on the path of great achievement through finding their ‘element’ which he describes as ‘the point at which natural talent meets personal passion’.

Dr. Kerry Spackman, (2009), author of “The Winner’s Bible: Rewire Your Brain for Permanent Change”, discusses how ‘rewiring your brain’ for success can ultimately bring about a powerful belief – an unshakeable self belief - that results in a person having the confidence and unshakeable certainty about his or her ultimate success. Familiarising yourself with a daily review of your goals, aspirations and plan of attack, accompanied by a self-made subliminal cd has worked on many a famous and elite Olympic sportspersons, coaches, or musicians that Spackman has worked with over the years.
In many scientific and educational research projects, success has been measured in lots of different ways. The great performers or sportspeople of our time have often claimed that they are not geniuses or people of superior talent but are simply hard workers. Doesn’t sound very romantic does it? The truth of the matter is that great artists, sportspeople, musicians, chess players, and academics put in thousands of regular and specific hours of practice. “What is the secret number of hours?” I hear you ask. Ten thousand hours. Yes, ten thousand hours.

Dr Anders Ericsson’s research (2000), “Expert Performance and Deliberate Practice” underlines the point that successful people are often experts in their field who have through their relentless training and practice achieved this expertise. However, when scientists began measuring the experts’ supposedly superior powers of speed, memory and intelligence with psychometric tests, no general superiority was found, in fact, the demonstrated superiority was domain specific.

For example, the superiority of the chess experts’ memory was constrained to regular chess positions and did not generalize to other types of materials (Djakow, Petrowski & Rudik, 1927). Not even IQ could distinguish the best among chess players (Doll & Mayr, 1987) nor the most successful and creative among artists and scientists (Taylor, 1975).

In a research review, Ericsson and Lehmann (1996) found that: (1) measures of general basic capacities do not predict success in a domain, (2) the superior performance of experts is often very domain specific and transfer outside their narrow area of expertise is surprisingly limited and (3) systematic differences between experts and less proficient individuals nearly always reflect attributes acquired by the experts during their lengthy training.

So given this extensive research on expertise and successful people, how does this information help our students and teachers better understand what they need to do to learn at a superior level, achieve better and ultimately achieve success? Eminent educator and researcher, John Hattie who is Director of the Melbourne Education Research Institute at the University of Melbourne, notes in his book, “Visible Learning for Teachers”, (2012, p14) notes:

“Visible teaching and learning occurs when there is deliberate practice aimed at attaining mastery of the goal, when there is feedback given and sought, and when there are active, passionate, and engaging people (teacher, students, peers) participating in the act of learning.”

What can we glean from the research about how to achieve and succeed? It doesn’t really matter if your desire is to be a great musician, artist, singer, sportsperson, business person, academic, teacher, student or parent, these are the ‘take-outs’ for great achievement and future success:

- **Passion** – we must believe ardently in what we do or what we want to achieve in this life
- **Belief in yourself** – your skills, your talents, your knowledge; you are unique
- **Plan of action** – building success requires a plan of action, not just goals
- **Practice** – 10,000 hours - there is no success without practice, think ‘no pain, no gain’
- **Learn from your mistakes** – mistakes are powerful lessons on what not to do next time you try
- **Seek specific feedback** on how to improve on your knowledge, skills and performance; and
- **Remind yourself daily of your goals, plan of action and dreams** – write them down and read them every single day.

Anything is possible. Remember we all have to start somewhere. As Robert Louis Stevenson wrote:

“Everyone who got where he is has had to begin where he was.”

Caloundra City School Newsletter

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30/08/2012 2:03 PM
Thank you to all the dads, grandfathers (and mums) who came to Tuesday’s Father’s Day Assembly and morning tea. I would like to wish all dads and special men in our children’s lives, a very happy Father’s Day this Sunday.

**Karon Graham**
Principal

**Principal’s Acknowledgements:**

Congratulations to Jennifer Norton on her outstanding ‘gold medal’ win in the recent Sunshine Coast Languages Speech Competition at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Jennifer was placed first against native speakers, which is an outstanding achievement. We are very proud of you Jen. Congratulations to all other students who competed - Jordan Muir (Year 5) - Highly commended, Brad Graver (Year 6), Tayla Pleszkun (Year 7) - Highly commended. Thank you to Ms Matsumoto for your inspiration and hard work with our Japanese students.

Congratulations to the following students who performed at the recent Eisteddfod:

- Nicholas Reynolds achieved a Highly Commended in the Junior Piano Solo Championships.
- Faiza Akram also attained a Highly Commended in her Australian Composer Piano Solo.
- Declan Tanner played beautifully as well in the Popular Piano Solos, competing against 26 other contestants.

A great achievement Nick, Faiza and Declan.

Thank you to the Parents’ and Friends’ who held a very successful Trivia Night last Friday evening and special thanks to the P&F Executive and organising committee – Natarsha Turner, Kerrie Noyes, Jo Mobbs, Pam Southern, Tanya Lawler, and Gillian Carr. Thank you to all of our sponsors and many thanks to all parents and staff members and friends who attended the Trivia Night. A fun night was had by one and all.

**Visit the Principal’s blog, Edutake**

The heart of a good education is quality teaching. Every day, teachers use their training and professional judgment to assess how students are performing and what needs to be done to support them in reaching their full potential.

The Australian Curriculum describes the content students will be taught. It also includes descriptions of the achievement that will be expected in each year of schooling. The Australian Curriculum achievement standards are an expectation of the depth of understanding, the extent of knowledge and the sophistication of skills that students should typically demonstrate at the end of a teaching and learning year.

It is important to note that when reflecting on your son or daughter’s assessments, in order to achieve ‘B’ and ‘A’ results; they are required to
demonstrate problem solving and understanding in complex and unfamiliar situations. A 'C' level of achievement is representative of the skills and knowledge typically demonstrated by students in a given year level.

The achievement standards in a learning area are represented by a coherent hierarchy of increasing complexity, in terms of understanding and skills, additionally; the achievement standard for each year is appropriately aligned with the content for that year.

**Year 10 Subject Selection**
Thank you to all those parents and students who attended the Year 10 Subject Selection Information night. Special thanks to the senior staff who were available for discussions regarding student subject choices and career paths. Please return the subject selection form to the Head of House as soon as possible so planning for 2013 can continue.

With the SET Plan interviews scheduled, two key aspects of students planning their senior education pathway will have been completed. SET Plan interviews have already started with Mr Pederson and parents are asked to book a time through the Administration Office. Parents are reminded that these plans are the responsibility of the student and that the school will assist in advising during their Senior Schooling and monitor progress across Years 11 and 12. The next step will be the Year 10 Work Experience scheduled for the second last week of this term. Students are encouraged to finalise their placements and make sure they are fully aware of the expectations in their chosen work place.

**QCST**
Year 12 students will be sitting the state-wide Queensland Core Skills Test on September 4th and 5th and achieving the best possible results leading into the final examinations in Term 4. We wish them well in this all important test for which they have been preparing throughout Year 12.

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**Junior School News**

by Mrs Gabrielle Frisby, Head of Junior School

**Junior School Assembly**
Thank you to all who attended our Junior School Assembly yesterday. A special thank you to Ms Scurfield and PrepFS for their great presentation about their Day Camp to Currimundi Recreation Centre. It seems all who attended had an excellent time and participated in some great activities. Congratulations to all the students who received Merit Certificates and ICAS Science Certificates particularly the students listed below who were awarded High Distinctions (Top 1% of all Australian participants) and Distinctions (top 10% of all Australian participants).

High Distinction
**Finn Blain** (Year 3)

Distinctions
**Anna McLaren** (Year 3)
**Jack Murphy** (Year 3)
**Zac Parrott** (Year 3)
**Ethan Say** (Year 3)
**Cherie Wilson** (Year 3)
**Quinn Hurt** (Year 4)
**Naomi Maurer** (Year 4)
**Teagan Osborn** (Year 4)
**Taj Stephenson** (Year 4)
**Jordan Blacker** (Year 5)
**Luke Geange** (Year 5)
**Robert Kidd** (Year 5)
Alec Latham (Year 5)
Jordan Muir (Year 5)
Keaton Dines (Year 6)
Ashley Loughnan (Year 6)

The final Junior School Assembly for this term will be held at 2.30pm on Wednesday the 12th September. Students from the PreplLT 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.

Father's Day Stall
Tomorrow, Friday the 31st of August, our P and F will be holding a Father's Day stall in the Dame Elisabeth 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 coffee cups, stationery items, sport socks, cooler bags and drink bottles to name just a few.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Earlier this 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.

Prep to Year 3 Athletics Carnival
On 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. Parents are welcome to take their children home at the conclusion of the carnival.

Kindergarten and Prep
We are finalising interviews for Prep for 2013 and I have also begun interviewing 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 or completed enrolment forms for Kindergarten or Prep, please contact Administration as soon as possible, as places are limited.

Cartoon Dave Cartooning Competition
Students from Prep to Year 6 are eligible to enter a 'Cartoon a Book' Competition to win one of two 'Extreme Cartooning' Tshirts. Cartoon Dave will visit the school during the last week of term to judge and hand out the prizes to the winners.

Conditions of entry are that the cartoons are drawn on A4 paper and must start with a sketch of a book. Cartoon Dave showed the students how to turn basic items like drawings of pencils and toothpaste tubes into characters by adding eyes, ears, etc. Entries will be displayed in the library and should be handed in by Friday 13th September.

If anyone would like to order any of Dave Hackett's books please see Ms Grant in the library.

CLASS NEWS
from PrepFS

On Wednesday 22 August, 31 very excited Prep students ventured by bus to Currimundi Active Recreation Centre for the Prep Day Camp. The day began with a welcome from Jane and Kieran, and a promise of chocolate cake for morning tea for anyone who had a big smile on their face.

Kite building was a hit and the children are very excited about flying their kites at school (when the wind finally picks up). Each student had to decorate and build their very own kite. After morning tea, we went on a short bushwalk and then participated in the Prep Mini Olympics. Each team was awarded points for groovy dancing, enthusiastic cheering and the completion of events.

We enjoyed humungous hamburgers for lunch and then headed to the
beach for an afternoon of fun beach games. Who knew that hunting for shells could be so much fun? We returned to school, very tired, but with some very exciting stories to share. Thank you so much to our parent volunteers. We could not have had such a successful day without you.

Library News

**Bookweek Celebrations**
Last Friday students from Prep to Year 10 were enthralled with the cartooning talents of Dave Hackett (Cartoon Dave).

There have been many students spending their lunch time in the library 'cartooning' pencils, animals, faces and toothpaste tubes.

The feedback from Dave Hackett’s presentations was overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to seeing all the entries into the 'Cartoon a Book' competition. (see Junior School News for information)

**Father’s Tip of the Week:** He didn’t tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it. ~ Clarence Budington Kelland

Parents & Friends Association Meetings

Next meeting Monday 10th September at 8.45am in the library. All welcome. Come and have a cuppa with friends.

Email: pandf@ccs.qld.edu.au

Student Banking News

I have seen a lot of tokens in the banking folders of our student bankers. You should all be planning ahead and cashing in your tokens for some prizes. On offer are booklights, handballs, USB’s and drink bottles, just to name a few.

**Banking tip of the week:**
Talk to your child about the difference between needs and wants. This will help prepare them for making sensible spending decisions in the future.

Nicole Hood, Banking Coordinator.

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