From the Principal

Last week a parent came into my office to thank me for the work a particular teacher was doing with their child. It struck me afterwards that this teacher probably thought that she was just doing what she always does - nothing special - because that's what you do at Caloundra City Private School. The parent who has two children in the school was full of praise for the level of care and attention that our teachers give to her children and in particular, one child who excels but has some personal challenges. Let's face it nearly every child has one or two challenges to overcome along the way. Every day, in both the Junior and Senior School, I see examples of teachers going above and beyond, in their care of students and helping them reach their goals and overcoming these personal challenges along the way.

The next day I had a parent from another school come to see me because she was unhappy with the teachers at her children's current school. It surprised me to hear that the teachers were not correcting or commenting on homework and work completed by students in class and the teachers were not providing extension activities for one of her sons, who if they finished their work did nothing more. (The coincidence of these two meetings within a day of one another struck a chord with me because we sometimes take for granted the extraordinary care that the teachers at CCPS take with our students.)

After a short discussion we went for a walk into a number of classrooms and the parent could not believe how much care was taken with the students and the presentation of the students’ work. Then she saw the records of homework corrected and the attention to detail on students’ progress over the term and the year. She then turned around and saw the different reading grouping, mathematics groups and literacy groups and listened while the teacher explained how different groupings allowed students to learn more effectively at a level appropriate for their ability. She was stunned by the quality of the carefully annotated notes kept by the teacher on each child’s progress.

As we moved from one classroom to another the parent could see that while each teacher was different, the student grouping and tasks were different on that morning, she could see, however; that all children were highly engaged in their learning and all of the classrooms were beautifully presented - full of student work, along with helpful hint charts and problem solving strategies. The classrooms were well organised, colourful and highly appealing. I was very proud of our teachers and the students as I walked from one classroom to another.
One of the things I love about my job is that I get to go into classrooms and watch teachers and students in action. I love it because the students are enjoying what they are learning, they are focused and when they are working in small groups, there is often a lively discussion about the topic at hand. A few parents have commented to me that they have been surprised (and secretly, very impressed) by their son or daughter’s choice of sophisticated words in explaining what they have learned in class that day. This is a reflection of the ‘common language and learning strategies’ used across the School.

Recently I asked teachers to gather some written comments from our students about the school to include on our soon to be revamped website. The words of the students speak volumes; they speak of great fondness for the school and our great teachers. Here is a small sample:

"I love Caloundra city Private school because it has helped me improve maths and the teachers and staff are really supportive and help us when things get tough" (Tia)

"This school is amazing and the teachers are fantastic. CCPS allows me and all of my peers to be involved in a huge range of opportunities; from debating teams, sporting opportunities, performing in musicals and even to travelling the globe on exchange programs. There is great technology resources which enable me to go further in my learning. The people, teachers, subjects and the school in general – are sensational. I couldn't be happier." (Sofia)

"Through my high school education attending Caloundra City Private School I have had the opportunity of participating in the school Canadian Exchange program. This exchange allowed me six weeks in Canada experiencing schooling and the lifestyle of a Canadian student. During my senior school years I have also partaken in a TAFE course of Fashion Design and Technology. The dedication and hard work of the senior school staff have afforded me the opportunity to complete this course that has helped contribute to my future career path of working as part of the fashion industry." (Tayla)

"My time at Caloundra City Private School was a very positive experience, with dedicated teachers who go above and beyond their required work hours to ensure their students’ success." (Elizabeth)

"I like CCPS because we have access to new technology. CCPS gives me more challenges to help me learn. The teachers are very kind and are not too strict. I like book s and the library gives me a wide variety. The library teacher, Ms Grant, knows exactly what I like" (Patrick)

"I am a Year 12 boy who has been at Caloundra City Private School for the last four years. In my time here I have been given many opportunities in which I can thrive from such as a school based traineeship in which I completed a Cert 3 in Community Recreation in Physical Education. This opportunity has given me a great perspective on the rest of my learning and has allowed me to get a head start on the big world. The teachers at CCPS have helped me greatly through many ups and downs in my learning curve but they have never let me wander to far from achieving the best of my ability. I would like to thank the school and the teachers for all they have done for me over the last four years and I pray they do the same for others in the future." (Keagan)

Finally, one of my favourites:

"Caloundra City Private School is lots of fun. I have really nice teachers who give me lots of challenges. I have also made lots of cheerful friends at our school. CCPS is a great place to be. Everyone should come here” (Astrid)

As we approach the end of the year I know many parents begin to think about the son or daughter’s class for next year. By the end of term Junior School students and parents will know which class they will be in and who their teachers will be for 2012. During the last week, all students will have the opportunity to move to their new classroom and meet their teacher. Senior students will receive their timetable and teacher’s names at the commencement of the new school term on the day of Student Orientation / Class Parties.

It's important to point out at this time, that it is the quality of teaching and learning and the teachers themselves who make the greatest difference to student learning. The one factor that contributes most to student success is the positive relationship between the student and
Quite simply parents, it is not the buildings (though air conditioning makes the classroom more comfortable), it is not the size of the class or the composition of the class (all research shows that the mix of student ability is more advantageous to all student outcomes) that make the difference to student learning. When all is said and done, the biggest difference to how much students learn and their success at school is determined by the quality of the teaching and learning and the relationship built with the teacher. The teacher is the “X Factor” and the teachers at CCPS have it by the bucket load.

Now is a good time for me to thank all of our teachers and staff members who passionately pursue excellence in their own teaching and the best possible outcomes for the young people in their care. Teachers, make us very proud and as parents have pointed out to me, you have made them very happy and their children very happy too. One of my favourite quotes that I often share with our teachers at CCPS.

“A teacher affects eternity, she or he can never tell where her or his influence stops.”

Thank you teachers for being the inspiration you are to our students.

Karon Graham
Principal

Principal’s Acknowledgements:
Congratulations to all performers who sang or played beautifully for the Annual Twilight Concert on Tuesday evening. The Prep to Year 11 students were outstanding in the standard of the performances and there were many tears in parents’ and grandparents’ eyes by the end of the evening. Thank you to Mrs Judy Hall, Mr Gavin Hamburger and special thanks to Mrs Katrina Butler and Mrs Kassandra Reynolds who organised the elegant evening of entertainment. Congratulations to all students and staff on a fabulous evening.

Congratulations again to Jessica Hoskin who won Gold in the Triathlon Queensland School Age Championships last weekend. A great achievement Jess!

STOP PRESS:
2012 promises to bring lots of exciting new developments with the addition of the new City Stars Kindergarten in the Junior School and the Interschool Sports Competition with Caloundra Christian College and Glasshouse Country Christian College for students from Year 7 to 12. The sports for Term 1 will include: softball, Oz Tag, Basketball and Ultimate. Term 2 sports will include: Soccer, Touch football, Softball and European Handball.

ZONTA:
Breast care cushion making day- Saturday, 12 November 9.30am-12noon in the DEM library. All parents and senior students welcome to assist.

Visit the Principal’s blog, Edutake

Board Shorts

News from the CCPS Board.

Dear Parents,

Caloundra City Private School has enjoyed another wonderful year and at Speech night next week we will celebrate the achievements of our students and reflect on the year that has passed.

Effective governance of the school is necessary to support the schools vision of excellence, integrity and learning and I thank my fellow Board Directors for their contribution to the school throughout 2012.

The parent community has been most supportive and I am very proud of
Ask about their $5 rebate to CCPS for every pair of shoes purchased by CCPS families.

Whilst our community is smaller in numbers compared to other schools’ the dedication and commitment of the wonderful staff at CCPS shines through. Our staff are excellent and care deeply for each and every student in our community, assisting them to reach their potential.

The new kindergarten is under construction and will be a most welcome addition to our campus and the introduction of the Mac book and iPad technology has also enhanced and expanded the educational opportunities of our students.

The school Board is mindful of the sacrifice parents make in deciding to send their child to CCPS. With this in mind the Board aims to keep fee levels within reach. The Federal Government’s funding formula (SES) which is census based, influences and has a direct impact on the level of funding we receive. In addition, whilst the federal government provided some schools with substantial funding to bring them to a 1:1 student ratio for computers, CCPS received no funding. (This was because the government ruled that CCPS had a laptop program in place prior to the funding allocation and therefore should not receive funding) Both factors influence fee levels.

Fees for 2012 have been determined by the board and are detailed below.
There will be no change to the notebook computer access levy at $300 per term.

2012 Fees CCPS

Tuition (Prep to Year 6) $5500
Tuition (Year 7 to 12) $6880
Resource Levy (Prep to Year 12) $770

Again, thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a safe, relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

Until next time,
Roy Henzell
Board Chair

Senior School News

by Gerard Maguire, Dean of Students

The end of the year is approaching with such momentum; it’s like watching an avalanche - you can see it happening but there is nothing you can really do to slow it down or completely change its course! However we can give it direction and it is in this way that we can conclude the year with what I like to call "Sparkle!" Many of the really important events of the year are held within the next two weeks and we encourage the students to prepare in all ways for these significant events. Correct hairstyles, polished shoes, clean uniforms and faces that ‘sparkle’, are what we have come to expect at these functions and this can only enhance both our individual/corporate pride and respect for each other.

Once again I thought that it might be useful for me to note these remaining events for your convenience:

- Tue 15th Nov  - Speech Night  (6.30-9pm Caloundra RSL Function Centre)
- Wed 16th Nov  - Junior School Presentation Morning. (8.30-11.30am Caloundra RSL Function Centre) - Year 12 day out
- Thu 17th Nov  - Year 12 Valedictory  (7pm DEM Library)
- Fri 18th Nov  - Year 12 Graduation Assembly (CCPS) 9am
- Mon 21st Nov  - Friday 25th Nov - Year 11 Leadership Week (CCPS)
- Mon 21st Nov  - Year 6/7 Graduation  (CCPS)
- Fri 25th Nov  -Term IV Ends  (12 noon)
- Sat 26th Nov  - CCPS Festive Fair  (1pm – 6pm)

Parents are reminded that students’ (Years 4-12) attendance at Speech Night is compulsory as this is the culminating function for the whole year. If there are any questions or concerns with this, please don’t hesitate to contact Ms Stuart or myself (for Senior students) and Ms Green (for Junior students).

Finally, I would just like to say “Good Luck” to our Year 12 students who are entering into the last week of their school lives. This is obviously both
an exciting and nervous time and we are confident that we send them out into the world ready and able to attack all of life’s experiences on their way. Well done Year 12!

Junior School News

by Catherine Green, Head of Junior School.

Speech Night
Next Tuesday, 15 November, all students from Years 4 and above will be attending Speech Night at the Caloundra RSL Function Centre. Families are asked to arrive from 6.30pm. The entrance will be via the doors from the street into the venue.
It is expected that all students will attend this event which is a special celebration of the achievements of our students and our school during 2011. Students are required to wear their school uniform, without a hat. As this is a very formal occasion I would ask parents to ensure that children have polished shoes and that hair regulations are adhered to. For some students, this will necessitate hair cuts before the event. Girls are also reminded that they need to ensure that scrunchies or appropriate ribbons are in hair when it is tied back. The support of parents in ensuring that students meet these expectations is greatly appreciated.

Prep to Year 3 Back to the 70’s Concert
Picture yourself in bellbottoms, platform shoes, a white disco suit, and a seat belt ‘cause we’re goin’ on a ride back to the 1970’s. This will be the theme for next Wednesday’s Prep to Year 3 end of year concert. The children are very excited about their performance and have been rehearsing with great enthusiasm.

On the morning you will be transported back in time to the days of afro hair and incredible clothing. You will also be reminded of inventions such as pet rocks, Post-It notes, wallpaper crazes, floppy discs and jogging suits.

All of the Junior School will attend this morning of frivolity and fun. Students from Prep to Year 7 are asked to be dropped at the RSL at 8.30am on Wednesday, 16 November. The children will be bussed back to school at the conclusion of the event.

Year 6 and Year 7 Graduation
The students and staff are greatly looking forward to the Graduation evening for the Year 6 and Year 7 students on Monday, 21 November. Parents of students in these year levels recently received an invitation and slip to return for catering purposes.

This promises to be a lovely evening of celebration for the students and a special time to reflect on their accomplishments as Junior School leaders and students at Caloundra City Private School. It is expected that students will wear their school uniform for the occasion.

Prep to Year 5 Culminating
To conclude the year parents in Years Prep to Year 5 have been invited to culminating events and end of year celebrations. The dates and times for classes are as follows:

Prep JH: 2pm, Wednesday, 23 November
1FS – 2.20pm, Tuesday 22 November
1JH- 8.30am, Thursday 24 November
2KC – 2.00pm, Wednesday 23 November
2/3LT – 2pm, Tuesday 22 November
3,4,5GF – 2pm, Monday 21 November
4KR – 8.35 to 9.15am Tuesday, 22 November
5NB – 2pm, Wednesday 23 November

Mrs Hall
As you are aware, Mrs Judy Hall retires from Caloundra City Private School at the end of this year. Mrs Hall is a Foundation Staff member and has contributed greatly to the development of our school and has taught many children during her seven years. Although there will be formal opportunities to farewell Mrs Hall, I would encourage parents and past students to take time to drop in and visit her in Prep before the end of the year.

**ICAS**

Parents who require replacement certificates for incorrectly spelled names on ICAS certificates are asked to notify me in writing: cgreen@ccs.qld.edu.au. These certificates are computer generated and based on the letter bubbles coloured in by the students. Due to the time in reprinting certificates the University of New South Wales has advised that parents will be charged a cost of $20 per reprinted certificate.

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**Library and I.T. News**

**Scholastic Bookfair**

The Bookfair was a great success thanks to the support of many CCPS families. Thank you for your support. We sold $3273 worth of books and novelties and netted over $800 worth of new books for our library. Well done everyone! I’d like to thank Kerrie Noyes, parent extraordinaire for helping with the Bookfair every morning, your help was greatly appreciated.

**Library books to be returned**

Next week will be the last week for student borrowing and all books need to be returned during the last week of school for stocktake. Students are not permitted to borrow books over the Christmas holiday break. Thank you for your cooperation.

**I.T. News**

This year, as with previous years, we will be refreshing our full fleet of Notebook and Tablet Computers over the Christmas vacation. To facilitate this process, students will be required to hand in their computers during their last week at school. The “refresh” process undertaken means that **ALL DATA** on the Notebook and Tablet Computers will be wiped, so any personal data must be saved to an appropriate location otherwise it will be lost. No data will be recoverable from ANY computer once it has been refreshed. The school provides storage locations on the network for students to store any **Education** material related to their studies. However, any personal data or files, such as music or photos, must be stored on an external medium, such as a personal home computer, USB Hard Drive, or Optical media.

With the continued migration of our computing environment from Microsoft to Apple, no student will be receiving the same computer for the 2012 school year. This means that students must hand in not only their computers, but all associated peripheral equipment including bags, chargers and USB hard drives (Macbooks only). Teachers will communicate to students the exact date and time of the hand in for their year level. Any school provided equipment which is not returned by the end of the 2011 calendar year will be considered lost, and must then be replaced as stipulated in the School Computer Supply Agreement.

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**Funny of the week:** Quote from a child when asked to write a ‘Deep Thought’: “Give me the strength to change the things I can, the grace to accept the things I cannot, and a great big bag of money”. ~ Age 13

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**Festive Fair News**

**CALOUNDRA CITY PRIVATE SCHOOL**

**FESTIVE FAIR**

Saturday 26th November 1pm – 6pm

Food stalls, tapas, sushi, live entertainment/face painting/golf putting course/sand wizard/sno-cones/tombola/ cent auction/ side show alley/animals/Irons bbq/Devonshire tea/Large scale lego model train and side show/crazy candles/cakes/sweets/raffles/prizes and much more

Mega raffle over $10,000 worth of prizes $3 ticket

**PLEASE NOTE:** Large items for the White Elephant Stall can be delivered to school between 7am and 9am on the morning of the Fair - Saturday
26th. Please take them to Room H2 in the Henzell Building. This will allow time for items to be sorted and priced.

Parents & Friends Association Meetings

The next P and F meeting will be advised in 2012

Email: pandf@ccs.qld.edu.au

Senior School Leader News

This week has been another action packed week even though most of us have now finished our assessment, particularly those in Years 11 and 12. As a way of giving back to this school, Week 6 of Term 4, will now be known as 'Leaving a Legacy Week'.

This is when a number of seniors help out around the school and it has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm shown by those participating. Jobs such as helping our Office Staff and helping Preppies swim have been just a few of those exciting activities we have been involved with. Congratulations to all students involved and well done on concluding the year in grand style.

On Tuesday night we, as well as many other students came along and supported all of our Twilight Concert Performers and witnessed some outstanding pieces and take this opportunity to congratulate all of those who performed.

Next week is it! The final week for us and we look forward to seeing everyone at the many functions including our Annual Awards Presentation Evening next Tuesday evening and wish all students the best of luck in these upcoming events.

We wish everybody a fantastic week and until next time (for the last time!)

Rhiannon, Alex, Olivia, Jake
Caloundra City Private School Captains

Student Banking News

Tip of the week:

Encourage your child to put their tokens in a safe place at home and get them to choose which reward they are saving for - this will give them a goal to aim for.

This week’s banking prize winners are:

Lauren Settle - 4KR, Bailey McDonald - 1FS, Zaida Williams _ Prep, Fletcher Winnett - Prep.

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

Excellence Integrity Learning 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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