5A Rocks Writes On
One of the whole school priorities for this year has been WRITING and we have focused on using the Seven Steps to Writing program to achieve some amazing success. Below is an example of a before and an after piece of persuasive writing by a student in 5A that typifies the improvements we have been observing in 5A.

**Before**
I think Nikki should get an award because she helps me when I look sad and she is always nice to me even when I am in a bad mood. She helps me when I am sad so how would you like being sad and not being able to tell anyone except for one person.

**After**
I think the best job is a Police Officer because they arrest the morons who can kill you when they are speeding and are unable to stop in time. Get all the violent people behind bars because they don’t care if you just want to have fun at all.

“Hey! Stop that moron speeding down the Melbourne Highway! Arrest him now!” That man could have killed someone by now but thank goodness the Police were here to arrest the naughty, young man and get him behind bars so no one got killed. Look at that innocent, old lady trying to cross the road but the driver came speeding past her and she nearly got killed.

“I was in a rush to go to a funeral!” I don’t care. Even if you are a hypochondriac I don’t care. You need to face the consequences of your actions. Police don’t care if you are in a rush or not. You should know if you are speeding that you are dangerous which is why you should cooperate with a policeman. Never hit a Policeman!

Never hit a policeman as you will never win. You will just get arrested and thrown behind bars. The Police just want you to drive safely on the road and have fun safely.

Now, would you like to get killed on the road by a maniac who is not driving safely?
Welcome to week 2. Week 1 flew by and I’m sure the weeks coming up will be no different. A few weeks ago I mentioned the concept of a “Growth Mindset” as a way to ensure we focus on the positive aspects of learning, and even failure, and to see the opportunities for growth in all that we do. It is also important to ensure we help our students to see the positives in their world, a world in which schooling is a major part. One simple strategy for encouraging positivity in mindset is to reframe and rephrase the age-old question, “How was your day?” By phrasing this question in terms of focusing on the various positive elements of our day, we can work towards fostering a positive mental image of our schooling.

1. What was the best thing that happened at school today?
2. Tell me something that made you laugh today.
3. If you could choose, who would you like to sit by in class?
4. Where is the coolest place at the school?
5. Tell me a weird word that you heard today. (Or something weird that someone said.)
6. If I called your teacher tonight, what would she tell me about you?
7. How did you help somebody today?
8. How did somebody help you today?
9. Tell me one thing that you learned today.
10. When were you the happiest today?

(Fun fact- these work for grown –ups too!)

Arrival Times at School

Recently, we have been seeing students arriving at school earlier and earlier each day. While we want students to be on time, arriving too early is not recommended as students may be here before staff have taken up duty. For your child’s safety, it is imperative that they not arrive too early at school. It is requested that students do not arrive at school before 8:00am and preferably not before 8:30.

Students who are arriving early often find themselves become involved in problem situations which continue once they have entered the class for learning.

We all want students to have a great day at school. By ensuring that students arrive at the right time and be ready for learning, this will assist everyone involved. I appreciate your support in assisting the school with this matter.

Drop and Go

The drop and go zone at the front of the school provides an area for families to drop off and pick up their children as efficiently as possible. Whilst this area does become quite busy for the first 15 minutes of departure time each afternoon, it does continue to work effectively due to the high levels of courtesy and respect that is constantly displayed by all parents. Whilst we all lead hectic lives with many competing agendas, the patience and safe driving behaviours that is displayed is certainly appreciated.

2016 Enrolments

The school is currently accepting enrolments for the 2016 school year for in school boundary applications. If you are aware of any prospective students looking to join our school for the 2016 school year, please encourage them to contact the school to collect an enrolment pack. Alternatively, if you are planning on departing the school at the end of the school year, please notify office staff so that enrolment predictions can be updated for school planning purposes.

Domestic Violence Awareness

As you are no doubt aware, there have been some horrific incidents in Queensland over the past couple of weeks, resulting in the loss of life of a number of young mothers and a six year old girl. If your child has been exposed to these events in the media, please take the opportunity to discuss the importance of being able to control their anger. We all feel angry from time to time, but it is NEVER, EVER ok to use our hands and feet to express it. Please talk to your children about using alternative strategies such as deep breathing, counting to ten, or going to a calm place if they really do get to that point where they are feeling explosive. Using violence is NOT an option and as we’ve become all too aware, the consequences can be dire. As parents and educators, we all want to raise respectful, responsible young people who are able to communicate their feelings in a socially acceptable manner. It must start from a young age. If your child has anger management problems, or you have specific concerns about domestic violence, please make an appointment to see the Guidance Officer. There are programs and support available. Additionally, our larger local employers, such as Bechtel, QAL, Rio Tinto, and others, also provide support through their Employee Assistance Programs.

For more information and to have your say on Queensland’s Domestic Violence Prevention Strategy go to www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/end-domestic-and-family-violence.
Prep enrolments for 2016

We are now taking names of children who wish to commence Prep in 2016. If you have a child born from July 1st 2010 to June 30th 2011 he/she is eligible for Prep enrolment in 2016 at Calliope State School. Late last year, changes were made regarding Prep. Principals have the discretion to enrol students who turn five by July 31st. Prior to a decision being made, a detailed enrolment interview will take place to determine his/her suitability and readiness.

Prep Enrolment Packs

Enrolment packs are now available from the school office. We will be having more interviews early in Term 4. Please contact the office for an appointment.

Prep Open Mornings

Our Prep Open Mornings will be on during week 4. Parents and children starting Prep at Calliope in 2016 are welcome to attend either morning. Rooms will be open for families to visit. There will also be a school tour available for any families new to the school. Days are: Monday 26 October from 9.15 – 10.00am OR Thursday 29 October from 9.15 – 10.00am
Children are to be accompanied by an adult for their visit.

Grandparent’s Morning

Our annual Grandparent’s Morning will be on Friday 23 October. We will start the morning with our whole school parade, followed by a morning tea. Grandparents are then welcome to visit classrooms from 10 -11am.

Chappy Sonia’s Corner

Do not inoculate your children against the pain of life. As children mature, parents need to withdraw from smoothing their path and satisfying all their wishes. In order to build character, time spent on consciousness-raising should be balanced with time spent developing tolerance for the inevitable unfairness and messiness of life, an enterprise in which most of us ‘feel bad’ at least some portion of every day. – ‘THE BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE’ – by WENDY MOGEL

Pool Opening Hours

Attached to the newsletter, are the new opening times for the Calliope swimming pool. The pool is opening to the public from the 17th of October.
**P & C NEWS**

**Uniform Shop**
The opening times for our uniform shop are Monday 8.30-9.30, Wednesday 2.30-3.30, and Friday 8-9. The uniform shop will now have eftpos available most Mondays and Wednesdays. Otherwise cash and cheque accepted. If you are unable to get to the uniform shop during opening hours, you can fill out an order form available from the office, and leave completed form and cash or cheque payment with the office ladies. Your order will be filled and be ready for collection the next Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

**Tuckshop Roster**
Volunteers needed. If you are able to volunteer your time to help out at the tuckshop please see Amanda in the Tuckshop or contact the office.

**EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS**

**Swimming**
Please ensure all belongings are named for swimming, including swimmers, towel, uniform, goggles etc.

**WBP Instrumental Music**
There will be no WBP instrumental music on Thursday. The instrumental music program will resume in week 3.

**P & C News**
The Chalk and Parent Direct orders are due back to the school by Friday the 16th of October. Delivery will be in the week of November 16th (week 7), plenty of time for Xmas. Remember, every 20c out of the dollar comes back into our school.

**Connect 2 Kindy – Playgroup News**
What a great start to our program we’ve had, with 34 children attending our Friday playgroups at Calliope SS so far! Everyone has been having a lot of fun exploring different activities and crafts at playgroup, even on the very cold mornings! Our playgroup children have been busy learning and exploring with craft, climbing and balancing, constructing with blocks and train tracks, singing songs, playing with playdough and telling stories. In Term 3, we explored some traditional Aboriginal stories and art techniques, and engaged in some fun sensory and farm play! Our favourite activities so far have been making frogs, hand-printing and climbing on the obstacle course! We would love to see you at our free Playgroup on Friday mornings at 10am, next to the Calliope School hall. All welcome! We hope to see you next Friday!
Remembrance Day

Calliope RSL Sub Branch will conduct a Remembrance Day service at the Calliope Cenotaph beside the RSL Hall, Stirrat Street, Calliope on Wednesday 11th November 2015. Service will commence at 10.45am and conclude at 11.15am. Veterans, Returned and serving service members, community representatives and members of the public are cordially invited to attend the service and may lay a wreath if they wish.

Complimentary cold drinks will be available for service attendees and following the service, the annual Remembrance Day raffle will also be drawn.

For further information please contact President Paul Hawkins on 4975 6473 or Secretary Darryl Saw on 4978 5621.

Junior Squash Superstar Program (ages 7 – 16)

Designed to introduce juniors to squash, through a fun & interactive program. Fun, Fitness, Skills, Achievement Levels

Wednesdays 4 – 5.30pm (14 Oct – 9th Dec 2015)

Advanced Junior Squad Fridays 4 – 5.30pm (by invitation)

Cost $10 per session
Coach Richard Williams: 0407 124636

Our Weekly Attendance Statistics

| Calliope SS Attendance Target – 94% | Calliope SS Actual Attendance – 92.1% |

Calliope State School Student Attendance Guidelines

This term we have implemented a new set of guidelines, Student Attendance Guidelines, which will assist staff, students and parents/caregivers in understanding Calliope State Schools attendance expectations.

Rationale

All schools in Queensland are committed to providing safe and supportive learning environments for all students which address their educational needs. Calliope State School expects that all learners will attend the educational program delivered every school day. Calliope State School's Attendance Guidelines aim to ensure that all students are given the best opportunity to learn by outlining the responsibilities of the school, parents and students in managing attendance issues.

Calliope State School expects that every student will attend school every day of the school year unless there is a satisfactory reason. Satisfactory reasons for being absent are:
- having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment
- being required to attend a religious or cultural holiday (with prior permission obtained from the Principal)
- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having to attend an urgent family event (e.g. funeral)

Calliope State School attendance guidelines aim to ensure that all students are provided the best opportunity to learn by outlining attendance expectations. At Calliope State School we are committed to achieving an attendance rate of 94%.

Shared Beliefs – Importance of Attending School

It is important that all learners, staff, parents and carers have a shared understanding regarding the importance of attending school. Calliope State School:
- is committed to promoting the key messages of ‘Every Day Counts’
- believes all children should be enrolled at school and attend school all day, every school day
- monitors, communicates and implements strategies to improve regular school attendance
- believes truancy can place a student in unsafe situations and impact on their future employability and life choices
- believes attendance at school is the responsibility of everyone in the community

Student Absence Line

Parents and Carers are encouraged to use the school’s Student Absence line to report their child/ren’s absences on 07 4975 8366 or email absences@calliopess.eq.edu.au

Deputy Principal – School Improvement

Coralie Baldwin