Term 2 has had a busy start for 5B! Students have worked hard this year to be ready for NAPLAN and we completed our four tests over three days last week. The students should be very proud of themselves for the mature way that they conducted themselves under these conditions. We were also very grateful to the staff who looked after us by providing delicious fruit toast and fruit platters before our tests. Thank you!

Our Drama unit this term gives students the opportunity to develop their participation in group work. It is wonderful to see the leadership skills and collaboration between our future school leaders. On Friday afternoons you will find 28 Space Troopers working in our mission teams to save the human race! The unit fits perfectly with our investigation into the solar system this term in Science!

As part of our school’s focus on improving students writing in 2015, the students have been participating in the 7 Steps to Writing Success program. Our sizzling starts and dynamic dialogue have been our favourite steps so far, but we are working on incorporating all steps to further improve our persuasive and narrative writing. It has been wonderful to hear students sharing their views on how 7 Steps are used in media like advertisements and television shows that we view every day.
Dates to Remember

20 May  Under 8’s morning
22 May  Free Dress
22 May  Walk to School Day
22 May  Pancake Day
22 May  FFF
3 June   Sports Day Prep-2
5 June   Sports Day Yr 3-6

Principal’s Piece

Every day is a learning day!

Last week, our Year Threes and Year Fives undertook their 2015 NAPLAN Tests, like all learners across Australia. I would like to congratulate each and every one of our learners on their fantastic attitudes, efforts and ‘have a go’ attitude. This Assessment Program is a ‘snapshot’ of just how Australian Year Three, Five, Seven and Nine learners are performing and can be used to determine growth and gain over time.

I would also like to express my thanks to the teacher and teacher aide teams for all of their work in reassuring our learners and preparing them for this week’s NAPLAN Tests over an extended period of time. At Calliope State School, like many others, this is not a process that occurs just prior to the NAPLAN Week. It is an ongoing and supportive process that develops the individual literacy and numeracy needs of each learner through ongoing assessments.

Each morning of NAPLAN last week, a ‘top up’ breakfast was provided by the school to prepare each and every learner and help ‘fight the fuzzies’. Thank you to the wonderful staff who helped prepare the fruit and toast each morning.

A final thanks must go to all of our parents and carers who have worked in partnership with the school to prepare and support their children. Without you, our school wouldn’t be the amazing place it is. Thanks everyone!

This Wednesday, 20 May, we have one of my favourite days of the year – Under 8’s morning. Our Prep – Year 2 students will be joined by the Kindy students for a morning of creativity and fun. There will be painting, games, construction as well as many more activities for students to choose and participate with during the morning. The teachers have been working very hard in buying resources and preparing materials for the morning.

We are again fortunate to have fabulous community support with the local Rural Fire Brigade. The Fire Brigade have been wonderful supporters of this event for many years and we appreciate them joining us again in 2015.

Parents are most welcome to join in during the morning – why not have your face painted as well! Look out for lots of photos next week.

Regards
Raelene

Unexplained Absences

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCES
If your student is away for any reason there are several ways of notifying the school.

- Send a note with your child
- Phone on 07 4975 8366
- Email absences@calliopess.eq.edu.au

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

Contact Details
We would like to remind all parents if you have moved or changed your contact details over the holidays please update your information by calling the office on 4975 8333. We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

Newsletter Distribution
The newsletter is published every Tuesday and is sent via email. If you have not given the school office your email please do so by calling the office or emailing admin@calliopess.eq.edu.au. If you would prefer a paper copy please inform the Office.

Office hours are 8am-4pm

School Payments
Please be aware that all eftpos transactions have a minimum limit of $10.
**Chappy Corner**

**Don’t Pressure yourself to be an Extraordinary Parent**

Don’t drain away your pleasure of parenting by trying to be a perfect parent. Every minute does not need to count. If your child is playing in a puddle, you don’t have to turn the experience into a science lesson about microorganisms. Whether you’re a stay-at-home parent, a full-time working parent or part-time worker, don’t turn your child into your latest project. Relax and enjoy parenting.

*‘THE BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE*’ by WENDY MOGEL

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**Instrumental Music Students**

Information for the Instrumental Music workshops, held in week 1 of Term 3, have been sent home to continuing and beginner students. The three days of workshops are a wonderful way to boost your child’s skills and the Friday night concerts are a highlight. Please return all forms and money to school by 19 June.

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**QSO String Quartet Visit**

On Thursday, the 28th of May (Week 6), the Queensland Symphony Orchestra String Quartet will be visiting Calliope State School. The String Quartet will be presenting a short concert in the hall from 2:00 till 2:30. All students in Years 2, 3, and 4 will attend, along with continuing Instrumental Music students (Strings and Woodwind, Brass & Percussion) from Years 5 and 6. The concert will be a fantastic opportunity for students to see and hear a professional string quartet in action, and to learn more about the instruments. Any students who are thinking about starting in the Strings program are encouraged not to miss this concert.

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**New Building**

Construction of our new Prep building has started. Please ensure you stay away from the construction site during this time. The carpark at the front of the school will be temporarily unavailable the afternoon on the 20th May 2015 due to machinery being used. Please use alternate areas for the collection of your children.
Walk to School Day Friday 22
May 2015

Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is an annual, national event when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

Stars of the Week

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<td>Zackery</td>
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<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>Prep D</td>
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<td>Ashton</td>
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<td>Daniel</td>
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<td>4/5C</td>
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<td>5/6C</td>
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Premier’s Reading Challenge

We are once again looking forward to taking part in the 2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge. The challenge, for Prep to Year Nine students, is a great opportunity to improve literacy, cultivate a passion for literature and for teachers and families to encourage students to read widely for pleasure.

Over the past ten years of the challenge, more than 10 million books have been read, and in 2014 over 108,000 students participated. For more information, visit the following website ...

http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/

Free Dress Day

This Friday, 22 May, is a Free Dress day. Please ensure you wear closed in shoes and shirts with sleeves.

Spare Clothes

If your child has borrowed any spare clothes from the school could you please return them back to the office. Accidents arise and we endeavour to provide students with spare clothes, but a high volume of clothes have not been returned.

Spell-a-thon

Forms for our 2015 Spell-a-thon have gone home. This is our main fundraiser for Term 2. Students will complete their Spell-a-thon during this week at school.

Year 6 Senior Shirts

Shirts have arrived and are available for collection from the office once your final payment has been received.