



# Calliope State School

21 July, 2015

Calliope Kids  
are:

Safe

Respectful

Responsible



## What's happening in ...

### 2B

"Reach for the sky!" This term in Science, 2B students will create their own Toy Story as they discover new concepts surrounding force and motion in order to design, make and appraise a push and pull toy for their very own toy shop. There is a buzz in the air as students have already started bringing in recycled boxes, milk bottle lids, and plastic bottles in preparation for this task. Who knows what imaginative creations our little entrepreneurs will bring home at the end of the term! In English, students have begun reading George's Marvellous Medicine and are currently focusing on procedural texts and how they are written. Last week students wrote a procedure for making pikelets, which they followed on Friday to cook an early afternoon tea! Yummy! Below you can see a couple of highlights from Friday's cooking experience.

**The Semester in review:** students settled in very nicely to Year 2 with a busy first semester of learning which had many highlights, some including, performing their version of The Gingerbread Boy play, growing their own bean plants, participating in Under Eight's Day events, an Easter Bonnet parade, an end of term parent showcase and so much more. We look forward to another great semester of learning together!

Dawson Highway  
Calliope, Qld, 4680

Telephone  
(07) 4975 8333

Facsimile  
(07) 4975 6437

Website  
[www.calliopess.eq.edu.au](http://www.calliopess.eq.edu.au)

E-mail  
[admin@calliopess.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@calliopess.eq.edu.au)



# Principal's Piece

**Everyone at Calliope State School is working together to ensure that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving."**

This mission statement is one of the key drivers in the planning and decision making at Calliope State School. It highlights the range of beliefs that we share in our united approach to educating our students and prepare them for the future beyond primary school. Over the coming weeks I will be unpacking this statement.

This week I would like to address the "every day" component.

Every Day Counts is the Education Queensland policy regarding school attendance. Recently the school has been highlighting and reinforcing a very clear message that "It's not OK to be away." If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in future schooling, tertiary study and their career. If your child does miss school, please speak with your child's teacher as early as possible to let them know the reason for the absence and to find out what work will need to be completed in order for them to keep up.

Research shows that, on average, the higher a student's attendance rate is, the higher their academic achievement is. Poor attendance has clear links to:

- A high likelihood of poor academic achievement
- Reduced opportunities for children to engage in learning activities
- Yr 1 students who attend less than 85% of the time are more likely to repeat this attendance pattern in yr 2 and 3
- Students not present at school are more likely to miss critical fundamental

learning of skill and are, consequently less likely to feel a sense of mastery of the curriculum and their own learning

- A student with a 90% attendance rate over the course of their schooling will have missed one whole year of school by the time they enter the senior phase of learning. A student who is commencing senior school a full year behind is more likely to be disengaged and demonstrate poor academic performance.

The recommended attendance rate for students is 95% and above. I am happy to work with families on strategies for ensuring students are attending enough school to provide them with a solid foundation for the future.

Coming home with (eldest) students today is information regarding the annual School Opinion Survey. This survey is conducted online and will provide the school with valuable information about our strengths and also areas that require attention and improvement. Your feedback is a gift and will be greatly appreciated.

For those families who do not have access to the internet, we will be making our computer lab available for you to complete the survey. The lab will be available on Wednesday 29 July and Thursday 30 July from 3:30pm for interested parents/carers. Places will be limited, so please contact the school office if you would like to book in.

Thank you all for your continued support of this great school.

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## Why join the P & C?

Actions always speak louder than words when it comes to valuing your child's learning. Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education and how interested you are in what they do. By joining the P&C you are showing your children how committed you are to helping students and your school community.

A lot can and has been achieved through the P & C and school working together towards common goals. To continue the great work, P & Cs need people from all walks of life and with a range of talents who are committed to delivering great outcomes for our children and school. Everybody has a role to play and your ideas will be heard. The more people who are involved, the more exciting and successful it will be.

## Chappy Corner

### The Words they say, the tone they use

Once you have established your authority it's time to help your children know their blessings, their responsibilities and the efforts of others. Examples are:

Greetings and questions should include a title – "Thanks dad for the help."

"Yes, please," "No thank you." Discourage silent nodding or head shaking.

"Mum, would you like some orange juice as I'm getting myself some too?"

Children should clear their parents' plates from the table as an act of thanks.

It's best that children knock and ask to come into their parents' room.

**'THE BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE' by WENDY MOGEL**

## Prep enrolments

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. Enrolment packages and information sessions will be available in term 3. 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.

## Transition Day for Year 6

Mt Larcom State School will be holding a transition day for Year 6 students transitioning into Secondary - Year 7 in 2016, on Monday 3 August. We welcome all students who are interested in transitioning at Mt Larcom. Students will experience Year 7 core subjects of Science English, Geography/History etc and elective subjects such as ICT, Rural Studies, Home Economics and Manual Arts and to find out what is expected of them as Secondary students. Please bring your lunch, water bottle and hat for the day. School starts at Mt Larcom at 9:10am. Parents if you wish your child to attend this day please contact the Mt Larcom School on 4970 2333 before Monday 3 August.

## Year 6 Camp

Reminder that you can now start making payments toward your child's camp.

## Dates to Remember

30 July School Disco  
05 August Show Holiday  
19 August Open Night

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Botanic to Bridge August 16

We currently have less than 10 participants registered for this year's event. The school receives a donation from every registration from our school community. Last year we had 67 participants and we are looking to improve on that number.



## 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.

## Calliope's Wide World of Sport

### CQ Regional Shield

Last Thursday and Friday, students from the netball and rugby league teams travelled to Rockhampton to compete in the CQ Regional Shield. Both teams showed outstanding sportsmanship representing the school proudly.

The netball girls won 4 out of 6 games, allowing them to play in the "Plate" Grand Final. The girls played their best game yet and won the game 8-4 against Warraburra SS. Congratulations girls!

The rugby league team won 3 out of 4 games, resulting in playing the "Trophy" final against Parkhurst SS. The final score was 14-10 in Calliope's favour. Well done boys and girls!

Thank you to the parents and guardians who travelled to Rockhampton for the event to provide wonderful support for the teams. Thank you to Stuart Claridge, Trevor Huth, Mohi Andersen and Shannyn Ind for their assistance with the rugby league team and Vanessa Rail, Sharnie Small, Gabby Stone and Jacob Bunyan for their help with the netball team. The teams wouldn't have been so successful without their help! On Friday, students are welcome to wear their carnival shirts and will be presented with their medals on parade.



### *School Improvement Bulletin*

#### Improving Attendance

Calliope SS Attendance Target – 94%	Calliope SS Actual Attendance – 92.8%
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School absenteeism and truancy can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day under Queensland law unless there is an acceptable reason such as:

- illness
- doing work experience
- competing in school sporting events.

If your child is going to be absent from school, you must let the school know why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, it is best to advise the school beforehand.

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, contact the school principal for advice and support.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for reasons such as:	Establishing good routines around school can assist with regular school attendance. These include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• birthdays</li> <li>• shopping</li> <li>• visiting family and friends</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a set time to go to bed</li> <li>• have a set time to get out of bed</li> <li>• have uniform and school bag ready the night before</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if they sleep in</li> <li>• looking after other children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast</li> <li>• set a time for daily homework activities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minor check-ups or care, such as haircuts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• speak about school positively</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term from Prep.</li> </ul>

#### Improving Literacy and Numeracy

##### **Activities that promote early literacy and numeracy concepts:**

Here are some fun, everyday activities you can do with your child to help develop their literacy and numeracy skills:

- play word games when out together, such as playing 'I spy' in the car. For young children, you can use colours such as 'I spy something that is red'
- paint and draw — art allows children to express themselves. As your child learns more words you may notice their paintings or drawings become more detailed
- sing songs or nursery rhymes while taking a walk, packing away toys or in the car
- dress up — children can practise their language and communication skills by playing 'make believe'
- play outdoors — pouring water or sand into containers, scales and measuring containers allows your child to explore numeracy concepts
- do a puzzle — puzzles are a great way for children to learn about sizes, shapes and colours
- play with blocks — concepts of size, numbers, patterns and problem-solving can be explored by playing with blocks. You can help extend your child's mathematical and spatial concepts by giving them paper, pencil and a ruler for drawing their block buildings
- ask your child open-ended questions — this encourages them to practise expressing themselves and lets them know you value their thoughts
- think out loud — so your child can learn about how you solve problems
- read books — reading together can be a special and relaxing time. It can help your child enjoy reading from a young age and give them a head start at school.

**Deputy Principal – School Improvement**  
**Coralie Baldwin**

## **Major Prizes Calliope Catwalk Community Raffle - \$5 a ticket**

Collect your book of 10 tickets from the office. All Proceeds go to Calliope School P & C

**1st Prize** - Gold Coast Theme Park Family Adventure - Valued at \$1200. 4 x Adult Day Passes to Dreamworld, plus 4 x Adult Day Passes to Warner Bros Theme Park, Plus 3 nights accommodation on the Gold Coast. **Kindly Donated by Dreamworld, Warner Bros Theme Parks and Departure Point Gladstone**

**2nd Prize** - 1770 Escape - Valued at \$550. Family Day pass on the Larc 1770 Tours, plus accommodation at Lagoons 1770 in a Pool View room and Breakfast.

**Kindly Donated by 1770 Larc Tours and Lagoons 1770 Resort & Spa**

**3rd Prize** - Beautiful Gems for the Gem in your Life - Valued at \$350. German made Sterling silver 18ct gold plated earrings, pendant and chain.

**Kindly Donated by The Gem Shack**

**4th Prize** - Feel Like a Fashion Model - Valued at \$350. Beauty Mini Makeover. **Kindly Donated by Silver Salon**

**5th Prize** Mum and Dad's Date Night - Valued at \$300.

Dinner at Dicey Riley's, Gold Room Tickets for 2 and a night at Metro Hotel.

**Kindly donated by Dicey Riley's, Gladstone Cinemas and Gladstone Metro Hotel**

**6th Prize** - Capture Special Moments - Valued at \$250.

Photography mini session including session and 10 digital images.

**Kindly Donated by Jabbi Photography**

Drawn Saturday 1st August at the Calliope Catwalk Fashion Awards Gala