What’s happening in ...

Prep D

We made it! 2015 is coming to an end and soon we will all be in Grade One! What a fun, exciting jam packed year we’ve had this year! We have started the Walker Learning approach this semester, where the children are exposed to a variety of investigations in a play setting. We have creation station, Tinkering Table, Construction area, and have you seen our fabulous garden! Our corn is now bigger than us! Come and see! We are getting beans and tomatoes off it on a daily basis. Some of our dramatic play areas we have been exposed to include post office, a fruit shop, a weather station, a vet, a nursery for new born babies and soon we’ll have Santa’s workshop!! Mrs Thompson, Mrs Gilliland and Miss Di have loved watching these fabulous young people grow into competent grade oners!
While Jeremy is taking leave for the rest of this year with his family, awaiting the arrival of the newest member, I will be finishing the year off as Acting Principal. We have many exciting events happening in the last three weeks of this year. Many are for specific groups within the school, so they are outlined below as a reminder for all families of what is on offer for the remainder of this term.

**Instrumental Music Parent Information Night:** for new recruitments  
*Tuesday 24 November 7.30pm at Clinton State School Hall*  
This meeting is for all new families to the Instrumental Music program, having a student selected to participate in the program in 2016.

**Literacy Centre Graduation:** *Friday 27 November Gladstone South SS Hall*  
Our seven students participating in the Literacy Centre this semester will graduate on Friday morning. I look forward to hearing their speeches on Friday morning.

**Leadership Speeches:** *Friday 27 November at 2pm Calliope State School Hall*  
Our year 5 students, selected from the nominations will present their speeches to their peers as part of the Leadership process.

**Year 6 Transitions:** *Monday – Wednesday Week 9*  
Year 6 students attending Toolooa High and Gladstone State High will attend their transition days during this week. Please ensure you have enrolled before this date to attend. Check the days for your chosen High School.

**Swimming Carnival:** *Friday 4 December from 12.30pm*  
Year 4-6 swimming carnival at the Calliope pool.  
The P&C will be running a canteen.

**Calliope Community Christmas Carols:** *Friday 27 November from 4.00pm – Rodeo Grounds*  
The Calliope Band, Choir and Prep – Year 6 students will be participating in this community event. The band and choir students are asked to be there at 4.15pm. More information about this event is later in the newsletter.

**Year 6 Graduation:** *Monday 7 December 5.00pm in the Calliope State School Hall*  
All Year 6 students and families are invited to our Graduation Ceremony in the hall from 5.00pm. Students are to wear their Senior shirts and school uniform. If they do not have a Senior shirt they are asked to wear their Calliope shirt.

**Dancefever Challenge:** *Tuesday 8 December Calliope School Hall from 5.30pm*  
Our Year 3-6 students who participated in Dancefever in Term 3 and have been part of the group rehearsing this term on Wednesday are invited to join in with the Challenge this year. The P&C will be running a canteen on the night.

**Principal’s Parade and End of Year Concert:** *Thursday 10 December from 9.15am – Hall*  
Our final celebration for the year. All classes will be participating in the final Principal’s Parade for 2015.

As you can see we have a busy time ahead of us for the last few weeks. These events do not happen without the hard work and support of many staff at the school and I thank them for their efforts at this time of year. I look forward to seeing many of you at several of these events.

Kind regards  
Raelene
Calliope's Wide World of Sport

Junior Swimming Carnivals
Years 1-3 will be competing in mini swimming carnivals during week 9. Spectators are welcome to attend however non-school aged children are to be actively supervised by parents and are not the responsibility of the school due to safety and supervision reasons. The students will be participating in a range of races and fun events.
* Year 1 – Tuesday 11.45am-1.15pm
* Year 2 – Monday 1.45pm-3.15pm
* Year 3 – Thursday 9.30am-11am

Senior Swimming Carnival
The Senior Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday the 4th of December starting at 12.30pm. Students are asked to nominate in at least one event. Parents, guardians and spectators are welcome to attend. The pool gates will be open from 12.15pm.

Community Christmas Carols
The students of Calliope State School are participating in the Calliope Community Carols again this year. The Carols will be held on Friday the 27th of November at the Calliope Rodeo Grounds (Chapman Park). Gates open at 4pm, with gold coin entry. This is not a school event, but Calliope State School is one of the major supporters of the Carols. The Concert Band and the school Choir will be performing at the start of the event, from 4:45pm. Students will be singing carols in their year levels, in between acts of the Christmas Play. This part of the night will be starting at 5:30pm and running until approximately 7:30pm. Students performing carols in their year levels will need to be at side-of-stage by 5:15 at the latest.
Students will be performing in Year level order, as follows:
Prep: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Year 1: Away in a Manger
Year 2: Aussie Jingle Bells
Year 3: Santa Claus is Coming To Town
Year 4 and 4/5C: Silent Night
Year 5: Frosty The Snowman
Year 6 and 5/6D: Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree
Students will need to be at side-of-stage while the previous year level is performing, in order to line up and be ready to go on. All Prep students who are performing will need to ensure that they are at side-of-stage by 5:15.

Student banking
Please be aware that student banking will finish this week for 2015. If you have any prizes to redeem please do so this week so they will arrive in time for the end of the school year.

Dates to Remember

27 November – Exodus Graduation
27 November – Leadership Speeches
4 December – Swimming Carnival
7 December - Yr 6 Graduation
8 December – Dancefever Challenge
10 December – Principals’ Parade

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 no cash payments will be accepted in the last week of school but we will accept eftpos.
P & C NEWS

Stars of the Week

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2016 Booklist
The 2016 Booklist is now available. A paper copy is available at the office. Book packages are available at the Calliope Newsagency and Office National in Gladstone are also offering book packages for the Calliope booklist.

School Transport
Is your child starting high school next year? Will they be catching the bus? They may be eligible for free travel or discounted fares. To apply, go to www.buslink.com.au and download a Bus Travel Assistance application. LODGE YOUR CHILD’S APPLICATION IN 2015 TO AVOID THE START OF YEAR RUSH 2016 Bus Pass Cards can be collected from Buslink, 9 Lyons St, Gladstone From Monday 11th January 2016 For enquiries please phone 4972 1670 or email info.gladstone@buslink.com.au

Christmas Cards
From 30 November, students are welcome to bring along Christmas cards for their peers at school. Students are asked to deliver them to the large post box that will be outside the year 6 classrooms. The envelopes must have the student’s name and class written clearly on the outside. Our year 6 students will deliver cards during the day. We ask that no candy canes are put in the envelopes due to our Healthy Schools policy.

Chappy Sonia’s Corner
Giving as a way of saying thank you. Giving to others can be a way to acknowledge one’s blessings. Words alone rarely teach children much about the good of giving rather than receiving. The key to getting this message across is letting your child use his/her leadership ability and judgement in the process of helping others. Give your child a choice of how they might like to help an individual or group.

~ “The blessings of a skinned knee.” by Wendy Mogel
Calliope State School Adopt-a-Cop

Constable Peter HAMILTON

During the last few weeks, Calliope Police have received a number of complaints about parents parking in the no stopping zone outside the school and in the pool parking area. Parents are reminded that parking in these areas is not only illegal but also puts children, parents, teachers and carers at risk. No stopping zones are marked with a “S” sign with a cross through it and a solid yellow line on the road. It is important to keep these areas clear at all times. Police understand that parking during drop off and pick up can be difficult and frustrating but in the interest of safety, please do not park and stop in the no stopping zone.

The loading zones are limited to two minutes only to drop off or pick up passengers and are designed to keep traffic flowing and prevent congestion. You should always check parking signs carefully as they are often stricter than normal parking rules. The type of parking restriction, and the times that it applies, will be on the sign. If someone parks a vehicle illegally or dangerously they can be given a fine by police.

*Authorised vehicle stop in loading zone for longer than signed* $47.

*Stop contrary to ‘NO STOPPING’ sign* $47.

*Stop contrary to continuous yellow edge line* $47.

Remember that parking rules exist to keep children, parents, teachers and carers safe and to keep traffic flowing during pick up and drop off.

"If you own this scooter and can describe the scooter and the possible location where it was located contact Calliope Police 49754000"
Community News

54th Gladstone Harbour Festival
Get Involved! Heading into its 54th year as Gladstone’s most loved event, the Gladstone Harbour Festival will once again bring the community a jam-packed program that is sure to entertain, but we need your help. This is your opportunity to get involved and win some great prizes. With over $11,000 worth of cash and prizes up for grabs in 2016 it is time to start thinking about your entry. Expressions of Interest are sought for entrants in the Great Raft Race, Queen Quest, Talent Quest, Blessing & Dressing of the Fleet and the much loved Street Parade. For more information call our office on 4972 5111 or head to www.gladstonefestival.com, all entry forms will be online from Friday 4, December 2015.

Calliope Cricket will be running FREE cricket matches at Bunting Park for all primary school boys and girls after school on Thursday afternoons at 4.30pm. All welcome.

Play Group in the Park
The Teddy Bears are having a picnic! This playgroup event is for children aged 0-5 years and their families and is free. Where: Bunting Park When: Thursday 26 November Time: 9.00 – 11.00am Bring your favourite teddy, a hat and water bottle, and a snack to keep you going. For further information please contact Katy on 0438 410 589 or katy.winter@benevolent.org.au

Christmas Variety Concert
Sunday 29th November, 1pm held at 161 Sun Valley Road Gladstone. Gold coin entry. Tea & coffee/softdrinks available. Raffles and lots of give a ways.

School Improvement Bulletin

Our Weekly Attendance Statistics

| Calliope SS Attendance Target – 94% | Calliope SS Actual Attendance – 92.2% |

Attendance Awards Term 4
Each week the class with the highest attendance is awarded a certificate for their effort and they take possession of the Attendance trophy for a week.

Week 1 – 2/3D, 3A, 3B, 4/5C all with 100% attendance for the week
Week 2 – 3B with 99% attendance for the week
Week 3 – 3A with 99% attendance for the week
Week 4 – 1C with 100% attendance for the week
Week 5 - 2C and 4B with 99.2% attendance for the week
Week 6 – 1C with 98.4% attendance for the week
Week 7 – 3C with 99.1% attendance for the week

Every Day Counts
At Calliope State School we understand that although we provide a supportive school environment, interesting learning opportunities, and clear Student Attendance Guidelines, there will be some students who require additional assistance or encouragement to attend school regularly.

At Calliope State School we will provide the following interventions and supports:

- Refer students to school support staff e.g. Guidance Officer or Chaplain to identify reasons for absences/lateness and to develop practical strategies to improve attendance
- Invite parents to assist in developing a re-entry agreement that addresses practical issues such as getting an alarm clock, negotiating transport, or changing family routines. Encourage parents to seek support from, and communicate regularly with, teachers and other school staff
- Schedule interesting before school activities that encourage students to get to school on time
- Link attendance with specific events such as school functions and extra-curricular activities
- Ensure parents are aware of their legal obligations and the importance of schooling from the early years
- Encourage parents to participate in parenting skills training (e.g. organisational skills), where appropriate
- Refer students and families to relevant professionals outside of the school (e.g. counsellors, psychologists, financial/social/occupational support) according to individual needs
- Liaise with other agencies as needed to suit individual circumstances (e.g. Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, the Queensland Police Child Protection Investigation Unit, and relevant non-government agencies)

As a last resort, where there is no reasonable excuse for the child’s non-attendance, we will act in accordance with Managing Student Absences and Enforcing Enrolment and Attendance at State Schools

Deputy Principal – School Improvement
Coralie Baldwin