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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

23/11/2023

Issue 2 - 2023 Term 4

Hi everyone and welcome to our last newsletter for the year.

Last Friday, I had the misfortune of missing our Year 12 Formal, but from all accounts it was a great success and a fitting way for our Year 12 students to be acknowledged and farewelled. When looking through the photos of the night, it was very heart-warming to see so many staff

attend and celebrate with the students. Congratulations to our Year 12 graduates. A massive thanks to Monica Galea, Emma Fahey, Kass Schaefer, Kristen Amos-Fazey, Ms Ward and Mrs Spreadborough for all their hard work and dedication to ensure the Year 12 students had a successful formal.

Congratulations to all the students who received an academic, merit, sporting or special award last Monday night. A special mention of Samantha and Tom who received the Primary Dux and Secondary Dux respectively. A massive thank you to our Secondary (Lawson and Tom) and Primary (Gordon and Samantha) School Captains who undertook their responsibilities on the night, and throughout the year with dedication and distinction.

At schools, we are always looking forward and this term we have been working on finalising our draft strategic plan for the next 4 years. The draft plan will be sent off to Regional Office for final approval. Once approved, we will develop our 2024 Annual Implementation Plan which will drive our continued improvement next year. Our two strategic plan priorities for the next 4 years are:

Priority 1 - Improve the teaching and learning of reading throughout the school from Prep to Year 9.

Priority 2 - Improve the engagement of students in the curriculum to increase students' wellbeing and academic outcomes.

At the end of this year, we will be farewelling a few members of staff. Mrs Black, who has worked for the Department as a teacher aide since 1990, and Mrs Simpson, who joined the Department in 1980 and also works as a teacher aide, will celebrate their final days at Calen District State College in the last week of this term. Both Vicki and Chris have made such an important and positive contribution to our school. We are going to miss them deeply.

Mr Roberts who arrived to our school at the beginning of this year as a 'Permission to Teach' staff member, and has taught students from Prep to Year 12 in Health and Physical Education and Sport and Recreation, will be moving to his new role at Moranbah State High next year. Ethan has been extremely dedicated and a well-respected member of our staff. We wish him all the best.

We are fortunate to have Mrs Morgan returning to Calen next year. Mrs Morgan, who taught Year 4/5 last year, will be teaching Health and Physical Education from Prep to Year 10 and Sport and Recreation to Years 11 and 12.

As we draw closer to the end of the 2023 school year, I would like to thank all the staff. Their drive, dedication and determination to support every student, every day, is one of the reasons we have such a great school community. Each and every member of staff do their collective part (and more) to ensure your child is educated, engaged and in a safe, supported learning environment.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who entrust us to educate and support their child. We take that responsibility seriously and with a great deal of pride.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Monica Galea and the P & C members for their enthusiasm and commitment to supporting the students and staff. If you want to feel more connected to the school community, joining the P & C in 2024 will help you to do that.

Finally, I would like to congratulation each and every student at Calen District State College. It has been another engaging, busy and exciting school year.

As this is the last school newsletter for the year, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe, enjoyable and relaxing holiday break.

Jim O'Brien

Principal



Senior Survivor Camp 2023



The Senior Survivor Camp was a long entertaining night of fun activities and sportsmanship and was an overall success. All of the seniors participated and had the time of their lives filled with laughter and competitiveness. Although only one team came out on top and won the ultimate prize, other individuals won special prizes for things such as determination, encouragement and helping out with cleaning throughout the night.

The camp started off with what the seniors want to achieve throughout 2024, and some amazing ideas were generated by everyone.

The Gliders team of Chloe, Ella, Logan, and Travis came out with the most survivor dollars and won the camp. They had the best team flag and their team hats were amazing. All teams had creative and colourful team flags and each team won all different challenges. The team names all had to be Australian animals and consisted of paralysis ticks, bilbies, cockatoos, magpies and screaming geckos.



The games challenged different aspects of everyone's physical and mental abilities focusing on teamwork. The seniors favourite seemed to be 'Capture the Flag' which was played during the day and night. There were no boundaries through the school grounds, and everyone lost track of time and enjoyed themselves. Overall, the night ended with a swim in the school pool and everyone falling asleep in random places throughout the library.



Lockdowns/Fire Alarms

If you are at the front of the school and hear the "Happy Song" playing, this will indicate that we have gone into Lockdown. A Lockdown is usually only a drill, but may be used in cases where students, staff or parents are in danger. Please return to your vehicle immediately and wait until you hear the music cease. Please do not attempt to contact the school during this time as we will be unable to answer phones and if there is a real threat, we will need to be contacting emergency services. Once the lockdown has passed, a notification will be placed on our Facebook page to inform parents whether if it was a drill or a real emergency. In the case of a real emergency, a

letter will be provided to parents informing you of the circumstances around the lockdown. This letter will be issued withing 24 hours of the lockdown.

News from Chappy

Hello to all our newsletter readers,

This month we celebrate 12 months of chaplaincy at Calen District State College. In that time, I have gotten to know the names of all the students from years 6 through 12 and I am working on spending more time with the younger year levels next year.

I am on site Wednesdays and Fridays and spend my time looking for students who need assistance with academic, social, emotional and spiritual issues or who have questions to ask about life in general. This means I spend my time in classrooms and the playground, encouraging students and helping with projects or worksheets. I also run programs to help engage students who have lost their motivation to do their best. We have moved dirt, spread mulch, spread crusher dust, installed garden edging, mixed concrete, and repaired a year 4-5 futsal table.

While working with students to complete these jobs we talk about how to get along, encourage others and work hard. Our mantra is "follow instructions, be kind, finish well".

With the help of community sponsorship, I am also running Breakfast Club on Friday mornings.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to a **Christmas Carol event** on **Saturday 23rd December, at Calen Community church (next to the school) at 5:30pm.**

Enjoy a seasonal sausage sizzle, before we will sing Christmas carols, and read some children's Christmas stories. Feel free to dress in your best nativity costume or your favourite festive fashion.

Chappy



Mixing concrete for the Year 4/5 class.

Chappy's cheerful mulching team.

Repairing the futsal table.

PRIMARY AWARDS

S. Mark	PRIMARY AWARDS		
Year Level	Student	Positive Behaviour Award	Award Issued By
Prep/1	Jessica	Settling into your new school so well.	Mrs Peach
	Lincoln	Great listening and staying on task to complete writing task.	Mrs Peach
	Tayla	For the great effort you are putting into your reading.	Mrs Peach
	Levi	For the great effort you are putting into your reading.	Mrs Peach

	Brody V	Listening to feedback and applying it to your writing.	Mrs Peach
	Daniel	Listening to feedback and applying it to your writing.	Mrs Peach
	Dominic	Working hard on your letter formation.	Mrs Peach
	Gilbert	For using the red and blue lines when writing.	Mrs Peach
	Darcy	For great results when spelling CVC words.	Mrs Peach
	Riley	For actively participating during Maths lessons.	Mrs Peach
	David	For actively participating during Maths lessons.	Mrs Peach
	Allison	For using the red and blue lines when writing.	Mrs Peach
	Jaxon	For working hard during your speech lessons to say the sounds.	Mrs Peach
01-02	Matthew F	Actively contributing to discussions about the words and images used to describe characters.	Mrs Caruana
	Nate	Working hard to refine your letter formation in handwriting lessons.	Mrs Caruana
	Cora	For doing a great job reading your decodable texts.	Mrs Caruana
02-03	Sylas	For showing respect to everyone by being ready to learn.	Mrs Welsh
	Emma	For improving your handwriting and work ethic.	Mrs Welsh
	Jkhia	For taking responsibility for his actions and growing as a learner.	Mrs Welsh
	Lily	For helping others out when creating new things.	Mrs Welsh
	Hunter	For showing respect to teachers and students daily.	Mrs Welsh
	Cash	For being on task in his learning.	Mrs Welsh
04-05	Indie	Upholding the school's PBL focus for always following instructions.	Mrs Atherstone
	Tilly	Upholding the school's PBL focus for always following instructions.	Mrs Atherstone
	Hanna	Upholding the school's PBL focus for always following instructions.	Mrs Atherstone
	Lyla	Upholding the school's PBL focus for always following instructions.	Mrs Atherstone
	Amber	Upholding the school's PBL focus for always following instructions.	Mrs Atherstone
05-06	Lylah	Being helpful and cleaning up after others.	Mrs. Rankin
	Tyson	A big improvement in his behaviour, both inside and outside the classroom.	Mrs. Rankin
	Samantha	Stepping up and taking the lead.	Mrs. Rankin
	Harlem	Instructing younger students in games on the oval.	Mrs. Rankin
	Sarah	Always prepared for any task she has to complete.	Mrs Rankin
	Benji	Always being considerate of others. Thanks for the books, Benji.	Mrs Rankin

SECONDARY AWARDS

		SECONDARY AWARD	S
Year Level	Student	Positive Behaviour Award	Award Issued By
07	Mikayla	Working well on school magazine.	Mr Duncan
	Mikayla	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Rylie	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Jazy	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Cadence	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Emily	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Lacie	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Tarni	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Colton	Always working to the best of your ability.	Mr Duncan
	Lacie	Working hard in English.	Miss Luckel
	Tarni	Well done completing your 'Feltie'!	Ms Ward
	Edward	Well done completing your 'Feltie'!	Ms Ward
	Charli	Well done completing your 'Feltie'!	Ms Ward
	Jazy	Well done completing your 'Feltie'!	Ms Ward
08	Riley	Working well in Science.	Mr Bauer
	Riley	Great work and participation in Non-German.	Mr Moffett
	Noah	Finishing your project swiftly in Home Economics.	M Ward
	Brody	Always being polite and helpful.	Ms Ward
	Dylan	Working hard in PE theory and practical classes.	Mr Roberts
9	Jorja	MYOB Master!	Mrs Spreadborough
	Ryan	MYOB Master!	Mrs Spreadborough

	Reagan	Great independent work in Yr 9/10 German.	Mr Keeble
	Baylee	Making improved efforts in English.	Ms Ward
	Dylan	Working hard in PE theory and practical classes.	Mr Roberts
	Ashton	Working well in Science.	Mr Bauer
10	Kaylen	Working well in Science.	Mr Bauer
	Justine	Great help with Hospitality Event.	Ms Ward
	Lily	Great help with Hospitality Event.	Ms Ward
	Abbey	Great help with Hospitality Event.	Ms Ward
	Bailey	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Kaylen	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Travis	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Ella	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Abbey	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Ella	MYOB Master!	Mrs Spreadborough
	Isabella	Great Independent work in Yr 9/10 German.	Mr Keeble
	Pania	Working very well in Year 10 Cert II.	Mr Keeble
	Lily B	Working very well in Year 10 Cert II.	Mr Keeble
	Kaylen	Working very well in Year 10 Cert II.	Mr Keeble
	Kaylen	Working hard in English.	Miss Luckel
	Maddison	Working hard in English.	Miss Luckel
	Joshua	Working hard in English.	Miss Luckel
	Isabella	Working hard in every lesson.	Mr Richards
	Maddison	Working hard in every lesson.	Mr Richards
	Travis	Working hard in every lesson.	Mr Richards
11	Tasha	Great performance with Hospitality Event.	Ms Ward
	Hunter	Great performance with Hospitality Event.	Ms Ward
	Tasha	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Will	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Jasmine	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Austin	Thank you for helping to set up for the Fishing Competition.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Ella	Independent Learner.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Chloe	Independent Learner.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Amy	Independent Learner.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Hayden	Independent Learner.	Mrs Spreadborough
	Hunter	Great work for the hospitality special event.	Ms Ward
	Tash	Great work for the hospitality special event.	Ms Ward
	Riley	Great work for the hospitality special event.	Ms Ward

Leadership Positions for 2024

School Captains: Amy & Hayden

Student Council President: Ella

Student Council Secretary: Chloe

Student Council Treasurer: Riley

Student Council Public Relations Officer: Justine

PBL Student Representative: Logan

Student Indigenous Representative: Maddison

Neptune Sports Captains: Ella and Michael

Mercury Sports Captains: Tasha and Austin









Last week, students investigated 3D objects. They used hands-on materials to build, describe, and record features and properties of three-dimensional objects.







Students have been busy identifying angles in their environment. They have investigated acute, right and obtuse angles.

We also looked at these clips to help our learning:

https://www.youtube.com/wat ch?v=lxkqJc3P40E https://www.youtube.com/wat ch?v=NVuMULQjb3o



In Literacy, students are refining their dictation skills.



Achievements in November

We have been investigating grid references and following simple steps on a map.





Students investigated how the turtle got its shell in Indigenous studies.



Students have been investigating commutative properties in multiplication. They know that the order of factors in a multiplication sentence has no effect on the product. For example - 5 x 3 is the same as 3 x 5.



Students have been investigating low and high viscosity in science. In English, students are adapting and performing poetry.





Lions Soccer Club

Congratulations to Liam Mietzel who plays for the Lions Soccer club. Liam's Mum reported that his U13 team won the premiership undefeated. Liam was ask play up in the Under 15's team, which won the Premiership as well.

Massive thank you

A very big thank you to Mrs Schafer, Ms Ward, staff and students for helping to make props for our Primary School concert. Thanks also to all the parents who have donated items towards our concert. Mrs Atherstone

Naidoc Medal of Excellence



Congratulations to Arabella who was one of 25 students across the state selected to receive the 'NAIDOC Medal of Excellence'!

Arabella submitted a colouring-in for the competition and was a winner of the "2023 NAIDOC Week School Initiatives". The aim of these initiatives was to provide students with a greater understanding on the importance of friendship and cultural diversity.

School Uniform

If you are shopping for uniforms over the holidays, the following is a reminder of our full school uniform:

The P&C Association sets the Uniform Policy for all students at the school. Uniform guidelines are regularly reviewed at P&C meetings. The P&C aims to keep the prescribed uniform at an affordable cost to ensure that all students are correctly dressed.

School uniforms are available from **Uniform Solutions**, 118 Wood Street, Mackay. The black unisex shorts are \$36 each; girls black skorts are \$25.50 each; Sports House Polo Shirts (Neptune/Mercury) are \$27 each; green unisex polyester polo shirts are \$39 each. Uniform Solutions are open Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm and on Saturday from 9am to 12pm., telephone (07) 49 513 549, email sales@uniformsolutionsmackay.com.au.

GENERAL NOTES

- 1. Wearing of jewellery is restricted to the following items: -
- Watch (non-smart watch)
- Medi-bracelet or locket
- Signet ring if of family origins
- Religious/culturally significant pendants to be worn under school shirt and not visible (this needs to be accompanied by a note from parent)
- Sleepers or stud earrings (two pairs only)
- Other visible body piercing (tongue, eyebrow, nose, etc) are only acceptable, if it is a miniature clear stud.

Wide brimmed hats are a compulsory item of uniform for any student venturing into the playground. Due to high incidences of sun cancer in this region, the protection offered by headwear must be maximised. Available from the school office.

NO HAT - NO PLAY!!

NO SHOES - NO PLAY!!

3. The wearing of a school uniform is a source of pride to the school community and, as such, a student shall always maintain his or her uniform in a smart and presentable fashion.

4. Variations of uniform or incorrect apparel will be explained to the Principal. It is the policy of the school; endorsed by the P & C Association, that school uniform will be the mandatory dress of this school. Detentions are given to students not in uniform without an excuse. This applies to students in all year levels.

SCHOOL UNIFORM - YEARS PREP TO TWELVE

GIRLS	BOYS	
 SHIRT Black/green polyester polo shirt with Calen insignia and name on collar, Yellow (Mercury) / Blue (Neptune) sport's shirts. (Both shirts are available from Uniform Solutions, 118 Wood St, Mackay (Tel 0749 513 549) 	 SHIRT Black/green polyester polo shirt with Calen insignia and name on collar, Yellow (Mercury) / Blue (Neptune) sport's shirts. (Both shirts are available from Uniform Solutions, 118 Wood St, Mackay (Tel 0749 513 549) 	
SHORTS / SKORT / SKIRT Black cotton school shorts with Calen insignia embroidered available from Uniform Solutions. Skorts/Skirts must be plain black. NOTE: length must be within 15cm of the ground, when in kneeling position Mini-skirts and micro-shorts are not acceptable. Alternatively, plain black shorts that meet the uniform specifications eg. length.	SHORTS Black cotton school shorts with Calen insignia embroidered available from Uniform Solutions. NOTE: length must be within 15cm of the ground, when in kneeling position Alternatively, plain black shorts that meet the uniform specifications eg. length.	

SHOES: plain black sandshoes are preferred, depending on availability. – **NO** sandals or slip ons. Shoes must be velcro or lace up.

SOCKS: plain white OR black ankle socks – NO trims

<u>HAT</u>: plain black, broad-brimmed preferred – NO caps. The school has available for purchase from the School Office hats for \$20 each (cash or cheque only). The hats are black on the outside and blue or yellow on the inside to suit the student's house.

<u>NAILS/NAIL POLISH</u>: nails are to be trimmed to an acceptable level. No nail polish/fake nails are to be warn to school.

WINTER WEAR: Plain black or green jacket/jumper.

Plain black trousers or jeans (NO BLUE JEANS - BLACK ONLY).

Tights and gym wear are not acceptable.

SWIMMING: All students to wear a t-shirt/swim-shirt.

SENIORS (Year 6, 11 and 12 only)

Students are permitted to wear the ordered shirt for their year level.





Drama with a Xmas Twist

Dear Parents

On Friday the 24th November 2023, Prep to Year 6 will be presenting our culminating performances for our current drama units of work.

We would like to invite you to come along and view our Christmas Plays.

Performance Times:

Kindy, Prep to Year 3: 10:50am – 12:00

Year 4 to 6: 12:00pm – 1:10pm

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
24th Last day for Year 10/11	2 nd Calen Community Christmas Party	1st New Years Day
24th Primary Art – Christmas Concert	4thYear 6 break up – Bredl's Farm	22 nd Start of school, 2024
28th Prep/Year 7 Orientation	7th P & C break up day	26thAustralia Day
8th End of Term 4	8th End of Term 4	
	23rdFamily Christmas Carols	
	25thChristmas Day	







Come and enjoy the Spirit of Christmas with carol singing and a children's story time.

You are very welcome to come dressed in Christmas themed clothes. See you there!



