FROM THE PRINCIPAL …

Take Home Laptop Program
Our year 8 students have started collecting their laptops as part of the College’s take home laptop program being offered to students in years 9 and 10 in 2013. I would like to thank the large number of parents who have already subscribed to be part of this program and encourage others who have not yet joined to consider doing so early next year. If you are interested in joining up to the program or continuing in the program in 2013 and you have not yet signed up and made your initial payment you will be able to do this for a limited period of time from 21 January at the office on the Senior Campus.

Christmas Concert
Thank you to all our parents who were able to join us for the Christmas Concert last Thursday evening. All of the audience were treated to a wonderful range of Christmas Carols sung beautifully by our Prep to Year 3 students. Thank you to our students and teachers for such a lovely evening.

Reports
Student Academic Reports will be sent home to parents this week. On Junior Campus we anticipate reports will be sent home with the students on Wednesday 12 December and reports for students on the Senior Campus will be posted on Friday 14 December.

Thankyou and Happy Holidays
As this is our last newsletter for the year. I would like to thank all of our wonderful parent supporters for the part you have played in the success of Capalaba State College this year. Your efforts and support throughout the year have meant a great deal to me and the teaching staff. Thank you! I would also like to extend my best wishes to all families over the coming Christmas season. Have a wonderful and safe holiday, I look forward to seeing you all and working with you once again in 2013.

Start Date for 2013
The first day back at school for all students at the College is Tuesday 29 January.

Dion Coghlan
College Principal
HELP TO KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE OVER THE HOLIDAYS—SCHOOL WATCH
If you witness suspicious activity at any time of day or night, you can contact School Watch on 13 17 88 or contact your local police station 24 hrs a day on 3433 3333. To report non urgent matters Think Policelink and call 131444. If the matter is urgent dial Triple Zero (000).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR CONTACT INFORMATION
Please advise either campus office of any change of address or contact information in writing. This must include an update to any emergency contacts you would like listed for your student. It is also essential that you keep us informed of any medical conditions for your students and action plans if required. If your student requires medication while at school a new medications permission letter is required each school year. Please ensure you complete the required form to ensure medication can continue to be administered by the College.

TEXT MESSAGE SERVICE ALERTING OF STUDENT UNEXPLAINED LATE ARRIVAL/ABSENCES
This service has been running very successfully on the Senior Campus in 2012. A trial has been undertaken at the Junior Campus involving selected classes. This will be fully implemented on the Junior Campus from the 29th January 2013. A text will be sent notifying of your students unexplained late arrival/absence if you have not advised the office or left a message via the absentee line on either campus by 9am. It is essential that we be kept up to date with your mobile phone number for this messaging. Thanks.

STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME (SRS) FOR 2013
The College will again be offering the opportunity for families to join the SRS and have textbook and resources provided for your student/s. This is a very economical way to ensure your student has all items essential for their learning. The forms and information for this will be posted home in the first week of school in 2013. Please look out for this mail out and return the forms as soon as possible after receipt. You will only have until the end first term to join the SRS or all textbook and resources will need to be personally supplied. Payment plans will be available and deductions through centrelink will also be offered. Any families who have outstanding monies from previous years will need to finalise these payments before being able to join for 2013.
MIDDLE SCHOOL (YEARS 7 - 9) NEWS …

Well here we are at the end of yet another year. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Middle Schoolers for engaging in a very productive year. I am always amazed at our young people’s achievements and we are so lucky to have a dedicated staff that continually support our young people and offer them a range of activities so early in their secondary schooling. Thank you also to parents and caregivers for the support you offer your young people each and every day. It is only through all of us working together that we can create an environment where our students can be the best that they can be.

Transition Days:
We had great attendance at the 6 into 7 and 7 into 8 transition days last Thursday. This day included students new to the College as well as students continuing their education at the College. Students met some of the staff that will be supporting them in 2013.

Transition days are particularly important as they enable students to mix with their new classmates and see if there are going to be any problems. If you or your young person has any concerns about classes or expectations for 2013, please do not hesitate to give me a call so that we can ensure a smooth start to next year.

Stationery Lists:
Stationery Lists for Years 7-12 will be mailed home with student reports this week. You can order your stationery from the Mt Cotton News or purchase requirements independently. Students going in to years 9 and 10 have been reminded of their subject selections but if you are unsure of what to purchase please give the office a call.

Change of Role:
As I will be starting a different role next year as Principal, Teaching and Learning Prep-12, this will be my last newsletter as Middle School Principal. With the move of Year 7’s to High School across the state our focus will be on Junior Secondary in 2013. Cheryl Wilson, who has been working as Deputy Principal in Middle School for a long time will take up the role of Head of Junior Secondary from the beginning of next year.

I look forward to working across the College with a focus on working with staff and students to ensure that we are offering the very best education for students by providing a support network that promotes staff and student learning that encourages us all to be the very best that we can be.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and look forward to working with you all next year.

Take care,
Linda Knight
(Principal - Middle School)
**JUNIOR CAMPUS NEWS ...**

**Student Achievement**

Our students find so many ways to perform at high levels. Recently, our Junior Campus choir toured local venues to perform their song repertoires. They returned to much acclaim thanks to their excellent efforts in entertaining local business and community groups.

A volunteer from the Wellington Point Private Private Care Facility named Lynn made a special phone call to pass on how fabulous our students were and how much everyone appreciated our choir visit. She praised the student’s behaviour and appearance and how well they were managed by Mrs Lawless, the music teacher. She was really touched by how our students engaged with the residents especially those with high needs. She said the visit was one of the highlights of their year.

Sharon from Bunnings wrote to us saying:

‘Can you place our compliments to the teachers and kids from your Choir. They visited our store last Tuesday and I have been receiving lots of comments from customers and team members on how good the choir sounded and how well behaved they were, considering there were so many of them. I was blown away by the kid’s good manners saying thank you when we handed out the hammers and drink bottles. Can’t wait to see them in store again next year; they deserve a big pat on the back.

Congratulations to Mrs Lawless, the choir and our Music Department support group who provide such wonderful support; they have contributed to our excellent end of year.

Mrs Lawless was again busy last week, coordinating and hosting our Prep - Year 3 Christmas concert. Parents and visitors were entertained by a variety of carols, songs, music and plays. Thankyou to everyone who made it along to support the students and the College P&C who were fundraising for 2013 initiatives. Thanks also goes to all the teachers and staff who were involved in teaching and rehearsing over the last few months.
JUNIOR CAMPUS NEWS  Cont...

Happy Holidays
The 2012 school year has passed so quickly and our final week of school is upon us. As we approach the holiday season, we reflect on our year of effort and achievement. I would take this opportunity to congratulate our students on their enthusiasm and application throughout the year and to all of our staff for their commitment to improving student growth and development. Thankyou to all of our parents and carers who have provided support to our students and the College.

I wish all College community members a relaxing holiday and an enjoyable festive season. I hope that your 2013 is a healthy and prosperous one.
The Junior Campus administration will be closed at the end of Friday, 14 December and will reopen for business on Monday, 21 January. School recommences for students on Tuesday 29 January following the Australia Day long weekend. I look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

Regards
Brad French
Junior Campus Principal

JUNIOR MUSIC……..
We have had a wonderful year of music at the Junior Campus in 2012. The choirs and band have produced some fine performances and have received compliments galore. Engagements including the Arts Extravaganza, College Fete, Presentation evening, K-Mart wishing tree opening, tours around Capalaba and many more have brought smiles to families and the community everywhere. A huge thank you to the parents committee for all their hard work and support and of course to all the parents and helpers who have enabled their children to take part. Our ‘Capalaba’s Got Talent’ competition certainly stirred things up this year, well done to all who entered and had the courage to participate. The prep classes drew in the crowds at Capalaba Park performing their songs and showing their beautiful work. Also, our recent P-3 Christmas concert raised the roof again! Thank you to all for a successful 2012 and here’s looking forward to an even bigger 2013 in the Junior Campus Arts Department.

Louisa Lawless

THE JUNIOR CAMPUS GOES MEDIEVAL

Year 6 students were recently transported back in time to the Middle Ages in England. They enjoyed feasting and a jousting competition in the Great Hall at the Capalaba Castle. Princes, princesses, barons, lords, ladies, knights and even peasants were entertained during the day by musicians, jesters, poets and dramatic performances. The day culminated in medieval style dancing before visitors to the Castle were transported forward in time to the 21st century and travelled back to the villages from whence they had arrived. Even prisoners from the dungeon were released to transport to the 21st century. It was a great day of merriment and celebration.
ARTS NEWS ...

Each year at Awards Night the overall Senior Artist of the Year and Middle School Artist of the Year receive their trophy and certificate. This year the recipients were:
Senior Artist of the Year: Jesse Benjamin
Middle School Artist of the Year: Gavin Requina-September

Congratulations to the students listed below who received awards on Assembly in one particular art form:
Senior Dancer of the Year: Lucy Golding
Senior Film Maker of the Year: Thomas Griffiths
Middle Years Musician – Vocalist of the Year: Brittany Smith
Middle Years Theatre Artist of the Year: Jordan Sandy-Coooper
Middle Years Visual Artist of the Year: Ashleigh Carmody

Thank you Mrs Mulholland
Many thanks to the parents/caregivers who support the co-curricular arts programs through their involvement in the Arts Music Parent Support group (AMPS). This year we wish to particularly thank Ms Kerry Mulholland. Kerry was Treasurer of AMPs for a number of years. She also volunteered her time to organise costumes and co-supervised two Band Tours. Kerry’s daughter Jade graduated from Year 12 this year.

Debb Wall
HOD – The Arts & LOTE

German News

Students from 7B, 8B & 8C German enjoyed their recent German Cafes. Students from 7B have completed an Invitation Unit and applied their new skills to inviting their guests. 8B & 8C students completed role plays set in German cafes before they could enjoy the German food they brought in to share. During the End of Year Program (7-13 November), Year 7 and 8 students have experienced a German Cultural Immersion across the Key Learning Areas. Activities have included students researching the contributions of famous German scientists; researching, planning and budgeting trips to German-speaking destinations; investigating famous contemporary and historical German-speaking artists and musicians; and playing sports popular in German schools.

SEP NEWS ...

WELCOME KOOPA
It was incredibly exciting on Wednesday the 28th of November. Koopa came to visit. Kate very proudly introduced him around and as you would expect he was the dog of the moment. With Koopa came his trainer Patricia, and to our delight, we passed the first hurdle of learning the various commands that are used such as ‘change direction”, “wait”, “let’s go”, “no sniff”, “brace” and the list goes on. For a young dog of only 15 months he is remarkably even tempered and loving. Patricia demonstrated Koopa’s ability to recognise and assist Kate in class by picking up dropped items, walking beside the wheelchair, acting as a brace for Kate to steady herself especially when she is getting up from the floor, and how he will nuzzle her. The training is wonderful and so responsive to each person’s individual needs.

Very many thanks must go to our SEP team of students and staff who brainstormed ideas and decided that a Free Dress Day and Muffin Bake would be wonderful ways of involving and including our Senior Campus population in fundraising the much needed funds that assist Smart Pups to train Assistance Dogs and in particular Koopa. Together these activities raised close to $800. In recognition of our efforts we have been provided with a wonderful certificate of appreciation and the Smart Pups toy mascot.

YEAR 12 GRADUATION OF SEP STUDENTS
I would like to acknowledge our graduating students this year. For many of them they have been with us since they began school and it was with much sadness that we said goodbye. We wish Aaron, Catherine, Nathan, Zac and Travis all the very best in their endeavours as they transition to post school options. They are well prepared and certainly very ready for this next stage in their lives. We look forward to hearing about their achievements.

Jo Gillespie
HOSES
WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY & SAFE NEW YEAR FROM THE P & C

Looking forward into 2013 there are many ways that you can become involved with the P & C and its sub-committees & directly help in your child’s educations at the College. Volunteering your time is the most valuable way to help and below are the many committees/activities that are much in need of helpers:

Tuckshop: The tuckshop on either campus would love more volunteers to help spread the load. This can be for as little or as much time as you have to offer. Please see Narelle on the Junior Campus or Tracey on the Senior Campus or leave your name and number at either campus office and they will contact you.

Craft Club: The wonderful ladies in this group are always on the look out for fresh faces & new ideas for their many stalls and fundraising activities throughout the year. Please leave your name at the Junior Campus Office and someone from the committee will contact you in the new year with club times and dates.

Second Hand Uniform Shop: This has been a wonderful initiative by the P & C to offer a service where families can sell items no longer needed and also enable families to purchase uniform pieces at very affordable prices. If you are able to volunteer some time staffing this shop please leave your name at the Junior Campus Office and someone will get back to you in the new year with details.

Committee Position: We have the main P & C body, Parents Auxiliary responsible for the operation of the Tuckshop on the Junior Campus, Music Department’s responsible supporting the Arts on each campus, Craft Club and Swim Club. At their meetings early in the new year each sub-committee and the main P & C body will be looking for people to take on executive positions. These committees are essential to the College and without them things like the Tuckshop and Instrumental Music Program can not operate. These committees are also the most vital way for us, as parents, to have a voice and provide input into decisions directly effecting our children’s education. Early in the new year we will distribute a list of executive positions for each committee and a calendar of when each meet. Please consider becoming involved in these committees.

Fundraisers throughout the year: There are a variety of events that the P & C take on each year to raise much needed fund for the College. Many hands are required for these so if you are able to offer your services at any of these as they come up please contact the committee either through each campus office or the email below. Sometimes it is hard to get around to asking for volunteers for these events directly so if you hear of one coming up that you can lend a hand to please take the initiative to contact us offering your help. It will be very much appreciated.

Through the College Quadrennial School Review it was raised that parents want improved communication in all areas. We will endeavour in 2013 to improve our communication to our parents and ask for your help with this. Please email to the address below suggestions of how you would like to receive information from the P & C and we will discuss these at a meeting early in 2013.

The P & C email address is pandc@capalabasc.eq.edu.au

Thanks & Happy Holidays from The P & C
Attention: Guardians of Teens in The Redlands!

Do you feel like you have lost all control of your teen? Do you feel all alone and don’t know where to turn? Are you concerned about coping over the Christmas period when they will have more free time on their hands? Well Redlands Shire has a number of services available to offer you guidance and support with your teens. There will be an information evening held on Thursday 13th December 2012 at The Meeting Room in the Metropolitan East Sport Office building on School Road, Capalaba. (In Capalaba College Senior Campus Grounds). Parents/Guardians are asked to be there by 5:30pm for a 6pm sharp start.
For further information please contact:
Mel Burke—Re-Engagement Teacher for the Redlands on 0467 745 540

Does you child have problems listening in noisy environments?

Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) is a broad term that covers many different types of disorders which occur in the higher processing sections of the brain. Put simply, it can make listening in noisy situations extremely difficult.

For children it can make distinguishing speech in noise hard. This is commonly reflected in the classroom, where children aren’t able to understand their teacher. Because it’s hard to focus on what the teacher is saying, it becomes much harder to learn or remember new information.

Australian Hearing can assess your child for some of the problems associated with CAPD. We also offer solutions that can help overcome the problem.
To find out more phone 1300 256 874.