Value of the week: EXCELLENCE
Excellence is doing your PERSONAL BEST. It is putting in the time and effort to any task that you might do or things you are interested in. You have a purpose. You know what you want or need to do to be better at something. You set yourself a goal and a timeline. You work towards achieving improving each time – in spelling, number facts, in your standard of reading, in sport, in music, in hobbies, in long distance running ready for the cross country, in your friendships. Choose striving for excellence - you deserve the best.
Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Recent Principal’s Conference: The opportunity was made to acknowledge the many and significant successes of Queensland State Schools over the past 2 years through the implementation of Curriculum to Classroom ( C2C) which is verified by student outcome data. Queensland teachers were thanked for their hard work and commitment to making this possible - and we can certainly say that of our CSS teachers and CSS student data.

The conference launched the next phases of curriculum development and school improvement through The School Pedagogical Framework and the Parent and Community Engagement Framework. In both of these our school is well on the way to meeting expectations, but as in all educational practices, there is always much more we can do. I look forward to working with staff and through the P&C as we review and implement the new frameworks.

School Photos, next Tuesday, 12 March: Our students look outstanding in their full school uniform – blue collared polo shirt with logo, blue short or skirt, white socks and black sports or school shoes. Each child needs to be dressed in the proper uniform next Tuesday, as school photo day, where annual class photos are taken and looked back over many years to come, is a very special day. We want all students looking proudly their Coolangatta SS best. If you do not have a blue collared shirt, please endeavour to purchase one from the tuckshop this Wed, Thurs or Friday.

A reminder that hair needs to be back from faces; that no jewellery is worn except a watch and plain ear studs and where special permission is given for religious or medical reasons; makeup, finger nail polish and visible tattoos are not permitted. The payment envelope must be returned by or on photo day, clearly showing what photo pack you might be purchasing. Correct money is required. The envelopes are to be given to the class teacher and taken with the class to their photo shoot.

Company representatives will be available before school on that day to assist you or phone their office for further information. A reminder that if you want family sibling photos, that you must arrange this with the company before next Tuesday.

TAG, You’re It! Our year 6, 7 students will attend a motivational speech this Wed, persuading them to join the thousands of other youth to take up the call to make our homes, schools, community, world a better place through Timely Acts of Generosity. Students will be invited to do an act of kindness for someone – who in turn is then tagged to pay it forward. This promotion is run through Just Motivation and sponsored through Juice107.3. We look forward to the pleasant surprises that may come our way. But this will truly work when we in turn, do an act of kindness for someone else so that continually we are on the look out to help out other people who are in our sphere of influence.

Harmony Day, 21 March and celebrated at a school assembly, Wed 20 March. This is a special day to acknowledge the diversity of people who live in Australia / our community. We are privileged to have students and families from many cultures who attend our school. I invite students who have strong connections with another country to share their cultural heritage with us on that day.

- Bring in an item to talk to their class about and put on display in the school library e.g. art work, poster / photos
- Wear their cultural dress for assembly and if they wish, speak in their home language, do a dance, song, game or activity from their family’s country of birth.

I invite parents / grandparents who may like to share their culture
- with their child’s class to contact me or their child’s teacher. We are enriched by each other’s culture.

International Women’s Day March 8, have a great day.

Sharyn Mahony

P&C News:

Tuckshop Roster:
6/3/13: Jodie, Emma, Jaya, Nicole
7/3/13: Lina, Hinnie, Leonie, Maureen
8/3/13: Michelle, Amy, Debbie
13/3/13: Jodie, Nicole,
14/3/13: Maureen, Alesha,
15/3/13: Jorgina, Debbie, Amy, Michelle

A special thank you to Dianne & Charlotte for helping out on Friday.

School Banking: Every Friday, please drop bank books to the tuckshop.

Hot Cross Bun Drive: Please support us in this fundraising event to help our school. Please return order forms & money to tuckshop.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the P&C AGM Meeting: will be on 18 March 2013, in the old library at 9:00am sharp. Please come & support your kids & school. Election of Office Bearers for 2013. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, School Banking Coordinator, Canteen Coordinator & Major Event Organiser.

School Photos: Don’t forget school photos on 12/3. Envelopes for sibling photos are available at school office and these photos will be taken before school.

Curriculum Corner: Fiona Brimmer (Head of Curriculum)

NAPLAN Year 3, 5 7 test dates 2013: May 14, 15, 16 are the designated test days this year. The tests are National Assessments in literacy and numeracy and are based on the new National Curriculum. Students will be tested in reading comprehension over a range of text types – fiction, non-fiction, poetry, recipes, advertisements, webpages etc. They will be asked to write for 30 minutes on a persuasive task, using good sentence structure and vocabulary. In the spelling, punctuation and grammar tests they need to be able to proof read, identify errors and correct errors. In numeracy they are presented with a range of tasks in number, space, measurement, chance and data. Each day in their learning from Prep – Year 7 students are developing the knowledge, understandings and skills to confidently answer the questions. Every day, parents can assist their child grow to be the best learner they can be.

Chaplains Chat – Chappy Lisa

Chappy Lisa will be attending a conference interstate this week and will be taking leave over next week. There will be no GO Club this Thursday 7th March as the leaders are also away at a conference. GO Club will resume as normal on March 14th.

School Captains Spot:

Last week we joined with school captains from Palm Beach,Currumbin Valley, Inglewood, Tallebudgera and Elanora S.H.S at Currimbin Farm Campus for a leadership day.

We did lots of fun activities like rock-climbing, orienteering type activities, team building games and quizzes. Sometimes we worked as a Coolangatta team, but other times we worked with school leaders from other schools. We made lots of new friendships with other captains.

We learnt that we needed to work as a team and with each other. Listen to everyone’s ideas. Communicate clearly. Take things slow, don’t rush. Think outside the box. Find solutions to problems. Everyone can be a winner, there doesn’t always have to be one. Not always the leader of the team has to be the best. Don’t let others down.

We look forward to working with the student council, arts, environmental and sports captains to come up with ways to improve our school and to create fun activities for students. Also to raise money for our school and other charities.

From Essi, Amadeus, Drew and Will

School Captains & Vice Captains 2013.
Our classes EdStudio is up and running and is an online learning environment for our students but also includes a space for the parents! Each student is currently using various design elements to enhance their personal EdStudio page. We have almost completed our first art item, which is a circle mural. These art works will be displayed in both ends of the room. Every student was given their Literacy Planet login details and at the beginning of week 6 they will be given their Mathletics login details. Our students have also been added to an online reading log website called Reading Rewards, where we can share and view what other students (and teachers) have been reading. This is essential to enforcing the importance of home reading and also creates a “bookclub” atmosphere amongst our class. Reading enriches the mind and allows students to view a wide range of words, thus increasing their vocabularies. We are demonstrating the value of reading by completing the online reading blog ourselves! 

**Senior Blue**

Senior Blue would like to welcome a new class member, Shimon. Our class now consists of 20 year 5 students and 7 year 6 students. This year students are accessing their homework online, using Mathletics, Literacy Planet and Study Ladder. It is wonderful to see so many students completing learning and set homework tasks. Unfortunately, there are a few students not completing homework. If students do not have access to the internet at home, they can access their homework at school. Homework Club is on each morning from 8:15 to 8:45 and the Computer Lab is open every day at lunch time. Our classroom is also open most mornings at 8:15 and student are most welcome to come in and complete their homework or ask for help.

**Reminder:** - Monday – Year 5 Swimming; Thursday – Library Borrowing and Computer Lab; Friday – Year 6 Surf Education.

**Middle Purple: Mrs Cecil & Mr Stringer**

Congratulations to all those students who completed their online homework last week! It is a great way to develop study skills. In Art we have been constructing Dream Catchers. Some cultures believe these to be useful in collecting bad dreams and are positioned above a person’s bed. There was quite a bit of skill involved in their construction so well done to all who completed one! In Science Middle Purple have been studying The Desert and how animals and plant life have adapted to these very harsh arid environments. We studied the Water Holding Frog that drinks twice its bodyweight in water and hibernates for up to 2 years in times of low precipitation. Please don’t forget to pay for swimming lessons as we have many students behind at present.

**Middle Blue: Mrs McEwan**

Middle Blue are reading letters to the Editor as part of their English unit this week and discussing the persuasive features such as ‘point of view’ and identifying persuasive language devices being used to persuade the reader. Try to read some other letters to the Editor at home from your family newspapers and discuss them with your child. In maths we will be learning about odd and even numbers and working with counting sequences such as 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s. Next week we will be moving into the world of fractions. Try and include your child in any real life experience in these areas and practise skip counting in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s from different starting numbers.

**Junior Gold: Ms Cronin**

We continue to study Persuasive Writing. We are using the “Hamburger” shape to help us remember the parts of our writing. The top of the bun is the Introduction paragraph. This is where we state “What We Want”. We are using high modal words and writing interesting sentences. This week we are learning about the Special Day called Hina Matsuri from Japan. Students have dressed up in traditional outfits and seen a Hina display. Students know that this is a celebration.

**Junior Red: Mr Vogel**

Junior Red has been busy writing persuasive letters and advertisements. Tomorrow on Assembly, our class will be presenting a group letter to the school. Well done to Rajin whose food advertisement the class voted as the most persuasive. The student's spelling has been tailored to their needs with everyone having their own list of words. In Maths we now all have our own 'metre mark' and have been busy measuring objects and looking for things which are less than or greater than a metre. In Science we are starting a Biodiversity Assessment of a patch of rainforest under threat from runners training for cross country.

**Junior Blue: Mrs Calder**

This week we begin our study towards creating an imaginative biography about a character from a familiar picture book. We will be inferring characters' relationships and motivations and examining the relationship between words and images in stories. At the end of the unit, students will create a PowerPoint of their biography.

**Junior Green: Ms Benfer**

Students have achieved great results in their weekly spelling tests and are improving each week. This is one strategy we use in class and you can try it at home ‘LOOK -SAY-COVER-WRIT-CHECK’. First students LOOK at the word. They look for patterns, tricky bits, smaller words hiding and parts that remind them of other words. Then they SAY the word out loud. Next they COVER the word. We try and visualise it in our head and remember the shape of the word and tricky bits. Then they WRITE the word. We take our time and look at what we’ve written. We Ask Does it ‘look right’? And we make changes if needed. Finally they CHECK the spelling against the original word. If it’s right, we are proud. If it’s wrong, we circle the tricky bit and try again. Keep up the terrific spelling Junior Green.

**Junior Purple Mrs Winder & Mrs Waldon**

Junior Purple Year Ones were working on their oral presentation last week, where they had to choose their favourite book from the ones we have read so far. They had to identify the emotions or feelings of the character, and also talk about what this might remind them of. They took their presentations home to practice their ‘good speaking’ voice. They will be do their oral presentation in front of their classmates and teacher this week. Junior Purple Preps and Year Ones made a poster about our School Rules, and all students participated with lots of enthusiasm in their art work and ideas! Quality workers!! Well done Junior Purple.

**Junior Orange: Ms Schmidt**

If you have any cardboard household recyclables such as: cereal boxes, toothpaste boxes, muesli bar boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel rolls etc., we would love you to donate them to our class construction supply box for creative responses on our focus picture book ‘Clancy and Millie and The Very Fine House’ by Libby Gleeson and Freya Blackwood. Thanking you in advance. The Oranges.

**HPE News: Mr Stringer**

The following results are from our fantastic Cooly District Swimming Team from the carnival at All Saints. All students relished in the experience against some super human super-fish swimmers! Blake (4th Free), Luke (7th Breast), Zyah (5th Free), Paris (2nd Free and Breast), Beau (3rd Free), Liam (2nd Back), Drew (6th Breast), Majella (4th Free), Che (6th Free & 7th Back). Also congratulations to our District Rugby League boys who participated in the selection process at Broadbeach SS last week (Lennox, Jackson, TeArama, Rahapa, Liam and Daniel). Rahapa and TeArama were selected to continue to the next stage in District selection – congratulations to them and all the participants for their amazing efforts! Thanks to the parent drivers for their help.