

Dear Parents,

2014 Reflections

As the end of the year draws closer it is important to reflect on what we have been able to achieve over the course of 2014. We have continued to work towards challenging our students to think creatively and independently. Our students are given many opportunities to be leaders within their class and throughout the school. We continue to believe that it is important for the development of our students that these opportunities continue and even more are provided. We are getting better at identifying the balance between allowing students to struggle with a problem before intervening. In addition, we have focused on being inclusive of our school community. We believe that it is important for our students to be aware of their place in society and understand that they can make a valued contribution to their immediate community as well as the global community. We have also learnt about the impact parents can have on student learning. Research shows that students achieve higher results when their parents are engaged in their education. I believe this is something that we do very well at our school. Our parents do place a high value on their child's education and this leads to high student outcomes in AUSVELs and NAPLAN testing. We look forward to strengthening school/home partnerships in 2015. Another community minded project I am excited about is the Friday night dinners which are returning in February next year. It will be great to bring the community together to reconnect with each other again.

We continue to focus on developing the social skills and wellbeing of our students. Our "Value of the fortnight" has provided explicit teaching of the right way to interact with peers. Our more focused approach to targeting bullies has enabled us to manage the issue more effectively and change student behaviour. The instances of physical and violent behaviour are very minimal which is pleasing to see and a credit to the students themselves but also the support shown by our families.

We held another successful Trivia night with over 100 people attending. It was a great night with lots of fun had and plenty of laughs and we were able to raise several thousand dollars for the kindergarten and school to share. It was also another opportunity to bring our community together and enjoy each other's company.

It is these moments of reflection that makes me excited for the new year ahead, whilst also looking forward to the Christmas break.

Christmas Concert and Christmas Raffle

Our Christmas Concert is scheduled for this Wednesday night, beginning at 7:00pm. We are planning on holding the concert on the school oval again. It looks like the weather will be ok, however, I expect it to call down in the evening so it might be a good idea to bring a jumper just in case. A deck chair or blanket is also a good idea to sit on during the performance. We will also draw the Christmas raffle and I would like to thank everyone who donated an item for the prizes – we have several prizes to be won. Could you please return raffle books and money by this afternoon.

Thanks To Parent Helpers and Staff

I would like to thank all of the parent helpers we have had throughout the year. We have had many parents help out in the classroom or on special theme days. We have also had valued parent representation on our School Council, the Parents and Friends committee, at working bees and the many fundraising activities throughout the year. All of this support is valuable to the culture of our school and strengthens the relationship between the school and our families which benefits our students. I look forward to working with our parents again next year and encourage those parents who may not have had the same level of involvement to come in to our school and help to make our school stronger.

A big thank you also goes to our staff who strive to teach our students to be the best they can be. The support provided to me this year has been greatly appreciated and I look forward to continuing to work with you all next year. We will also welcome Mrs Phillips back from family leave.

Early Dismissal – 1:30pm this Friday 20th December

Parents are reminded the last day of school for this year is Friday 19th December. The day will conclude at 1:30pm with a short assembly beginning at 1:15pm. Students will have recess only on this day so please ensure they will have enough to eat as the students won't be having lunch at 1pm. The first day of school next year for all students is Thursday 29th January, 2015. The staff and I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and a relaxing summer.

Joel Fraser – Principal

Solar Energy Generation

The reading this week is 37266kwh which means we have generated 353kwh since the last reading.

**YOU CAN DO IT
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
For Fortnight Ending 12th December 2014**



Prep/1	Thomas Robinson	For showing determination in his work.
1/2	Leila Hare	For showing respect for others and always listening to and following instructions.
2/3	Ayva Rohde	For having a positive attitude towards all class activities.
	Lincoln Sturre	For trying hard in class activities.
4/5	Hailee Henry	For her careful listening and constructive comments on research projects.
5/6	Chelsi Adam	For displaying maturity and responsibility throughout all school activities.
Principal	Cassie Matthews	For being a happy and friendly student.

DATES TO REMEMBER

17 th Dec	Wed	End of Year Concert – 7:00pm Start
18 th Dec	Thu	Year 6 Graduation
19 th Dec	Fri	Last Day Term 4 – Early Dismissal at 1:30pm
28 th Jan	Wed	Student Free Day – First Day For Staff
29 th Jan	Thu	First Day For Pupils Term 1 2015

*Weekly Newsletter No 36
Tuesday, 16th December 2014*



On behalf of all the staff I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!



We wish all the best to our Year 6 students with their future schooling.

PRINCIPAL: Joel Fraser
RMB 3015 TRARALGON SOUTH 3844
PHONE: 5195 5244
fraser.joel.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

<http://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au/>
www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/schoolsonline
traralgonsthps.wikispaces.com

PARENTS & FRIENDS - 2014 WRAP UP

As another year comes to an end I'm very pleased to report that 2014 has been a wonderfully successful year for the Parents and Friends Committee.

The year began with the P& F committee raising enough money to purchase 8 Mini iPads for the students to share.

The committee also introduced a student satchel for housing homework, readers etc. I believe this was very well received by parents and students and will continue to be used into the future.

Of course our usual Mothers Day and Fathers Day stalls were great hits with the kids and I'm so proud of the committee and volunteers for collecting lots of goodies and giving the students more variety than ever before to choose from.

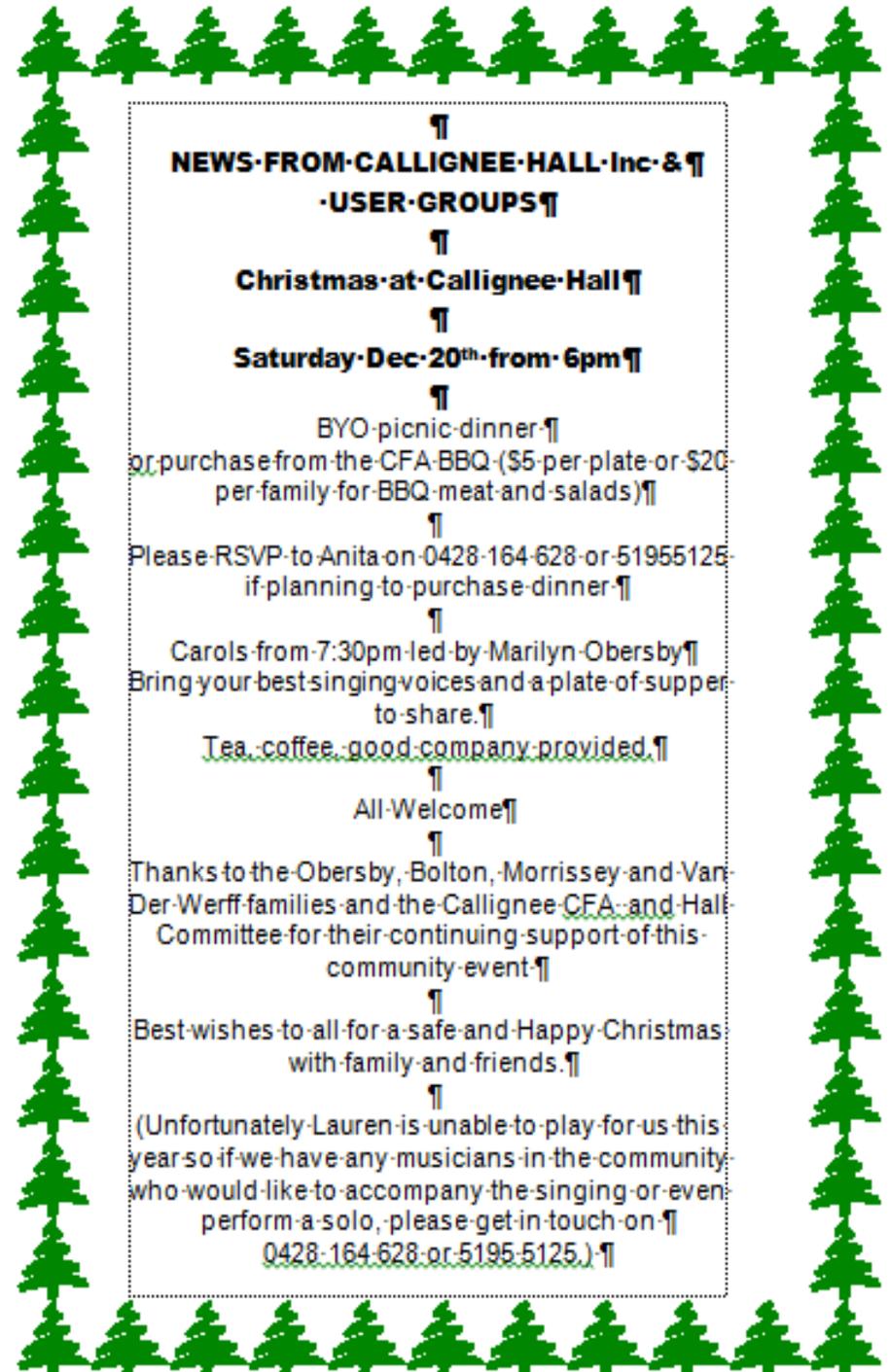
School lunches began with a bang at the start of the year but unfortunately dropped off after a few months. The decision was made in September to hold lunches only once a month and wow what a great move this was as each month since has seen a large number of children ordering lunches. It was an absolute joy seeing the smiles and excitement on the kids faces as they collected their lunches.

At our final meeting for 2014 our fundraising balance for the year was extremely healthy and it was decided that we were able to purchase a lockable 16 port storage/docking station for the iPads. The committee also agreed to fund the end of year excursion to the Ten Pin Bowling Alley, as well as financially contributing to the Grade 6 graduation.

Thank you to all the volunteers and especially to the committee members who have worked so hard and put in so much of their own time to make our fundraising so successful. 2015 is looking like a great year as we now aim to purchase an additional 8 Mini iPads to fill the storage unit.

From the P & F committee we hope you all have a very merry and safe Christmas and we look forward to seeing some new faces and some new ideas for fundraisers next year.

Renee Gore
President
On behalf of the Parents & Friends Committee



¶
NEWS FROM CALLIGNEE HALL INC & USER GROUPS¶
¶
Christmas at Callignee Hall¶
¶
Saturday Dec 20th from 6pm¶
¶
BYO picnic dinner¶
or purchase from the CFA BBQ (\$5 per plate or \$20 per family for BBQ meat and salads)¶
¶
Please RSVP to Anita on 0428 164 628 or 51955125 if planning to purchase dinner.¶
¶
Carols from 7:30pm led by Marilyn Obersby¶
Bring your best singing voices and a plate of supper to share.¶
Tea, coffee, good company provided.¶
¶
All Welcome¶
¶
Thanks to the Obersby, Bolton, Morrissey and Van Der Werff families and the Callignee CFA and Hall Committee for their continuing support of this community event.¶
¶
Best wishes to all for a safe and Happy Christmas with family and friends.¶
¶
(Unfortunately Lauren is unable to play for us this year so if we have any musicians in the community who would like to accompany the singing or even perform a solo, please get in touch on ¶
0428 164 628 or 5195 5125.)¶